BRITISH MUSEUM

For Meaning of this Number, see Page iii. of Cover.

No. 140616

JOHN BULL

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[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Bechstein, no offer refused if reasonable; a brilliant tone, full-compass, iron frame, trichord boudoir grand pianoforte, in rosewood case, on fluted legs, by Steinway and Sons; American organ; piano player, by Hardman; almost new, very massive square pillar all-brass bedstead, full size, with pure hair mattress, etc., from 60s.; an Italian square brass tube bedstead, 3 guineas; black and brass bedstead, 30s.; 10 most massive and elaborate bedroom suites in Heppelwhite, Queen Anne, Chippendale, Sheraton, ash, white enamel, oak, etc., from 70s. each; ebonised show cabinets with carved boxwood panels, 6ft. mahogany wardrobe, fitted rail, 10 pegs, bonnet drawer, two sliding trays, five long and two short drawers, silvered glass centre, two panel doors, 3 guineas; 4ft. Spanish mahogany chest of four long drawers, shape top, with column support on plinth, £3 10s.; mahogany shaving stand with adjustable circular mirror, 25s.; 3ft. 6in. birch washstand, 10s.; Sheraton design bedroom suite, 6 guineas; large-size, fully inlaid suite, 10 guineas, and one at 15 guineas; three old antique chests, two tallboy chests, two very fine satinwood bedroom suites inlaid with kingwood, etc., with cheval glasses to match, 6ft. Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25 guineas, worth 60 guineas; mahogany cheval glass, 3 guineas; 3ft. mahogany robe, two bedside tables, etc., the dining, library, and reception furniture, comprises an elaborate carved oak dining-room set, consisting of two Elizabethan design carved oak chairs, six small chairs to match; most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard with bevel plate-glass back, extending dining table, all to match, six very fine specimens of reproduction of Chippendale chairs upholstered in crimson leather, also Sheraton design set, Heppelwhite set, a very fine Queen Anne dining-room set, 3 guineas; mahogany-frame, high back, open armchair, upholstered in crimson leather, 3 guineas; stuffover couch, upholstered in crimson morocco, 4 guineas; mahogany-frame, open armchair in morocco, £2 15s.; six walnut-frame dining chairs, seats upholstered en suite, 6 guineas; two oak bookcases, a morning-room suite in solid oak, comprising oak Welsh dresser, with copper fitments, and a William and Mary design suite upholstered in red leather, table, overmantel, all to match, accept 12 guineas; 6ft. 6in. oak sideboard, 4ft. chiffonniere, 5ft. walnut dining table (seven leaves), 4ft. 6in. grain walnut writing table, ormolu clock, a real Chippendale corner cupboard, three dining tables, opening to 16ft., from 30s.; mahogany dinner wagon, a convertible billiard dining table, with balls, cues, etc, and old oak coffer, two grandfather clocks, chiming on tubes, striking mantel clock by Leroy et Fils, Paris, with compensated movement, brass and ormolu dial, in ebonised glazed case, 26in. high; morocco Chesterfield and two club easys to match; the Wilton pile, maroon and figured buff ground and bordered carpet, 15ft. 9ins. by 17ft. Turkey and Persian carpets, fine specimens, also Axminster, Brussels, and other carpets, from 20s. each; about 16 pairs very fine silk curtains and mantel drapery to match, a rare collection of china, including a very fine Wedgwood dessert service, Dresden coffee service, etc., collection of fine old silver and Sheffield plate in Georgian and other designs; canteen of silver, 100 pieces, 7 guineas; two very fine sets of English-cut table glass, large quantity of bed and table linen; curtains, etc.; some rare oil and water-colour paintings and engravings, several pieces of plate by Mappin and Webb. two-plated candelabras and three pairs candlesticks, some very fine and unique bear and tiger skins, mounted as rugs, full heads, 10 cases of wines, assorted; very fine cigar cabinet; Parisian Victoria, miniature brougham, and two motor-cars, two wine bins, etc. All can be seen, and are being sold, without any reserve, every day, from nine to nine, except Saturdays, when we close at seven, at

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(under the Auspices of the League)

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THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

The political bioscope is working at such a rate that it is very difficult when going to press several days before the date of publication to attempt to describe the picture of the moment. But at the time of writing the dominating scene is one which depicts the Peers offering to accept the Finance Veto and requesting a Conference on the General one, and, at the same time, on the Reform proposals of Lord Rosebery.

Naturally, this will not suit the Irish. They don't care a brass button about the First Resolution. That has no bearing on Home Rule. What they want is to see that the Liberals are in a position to force Home Rule down the throats of the Peers—and no Conference can effect that. A row, therefore, is inevitable. Nothing, however, will be decided before the King's return ; and, by consent of all parties, the Revolution stands over.

Meanwhile, Mr. Asquith has, with consummate skill and diplomacy, secured his Budget. Only those behind the scenes can appreciate the task he has accomplished. With Mr. Haldane insisting on full Army Supply, and the Lords of the Navy declining to play any Party game—backed up by Sir Edward Grey, who threatened resignation if either of the great Services was tampered with—on the one hand, and Messrs. Lloyd George and Winston Churchill clamouring for heroic measures on the other ; with Mr. Burns lukewarm about everything except his own Department ; with the Veto-Firsts, and Budget-Firsts ; the Lords-Reformers and the Non-Reformers all yelling at him ; with Mr. Redmond and his friends insisting on "Guarantees" as a condition of passing the Budget, and Mr. O'Brien and *his* friends cursing the Budget up hill and down dale—with all these things to contend with, it is little less than a miracle that by the time the House rises for that "Spring Recess," peace will have taken the place of pandemonium, order replaced chaos, and contentment mutiny. Mr. Asquith is undoubtedly a great Parliamentarian. If, ultimately, he is beaten, it will be because nobody, merely human, could have succeeded. We must wait and see. God save the King.

At last we have brought Mr. McKenna to bay. He admits that the assurance given by him to the House about that "one German workman" on the *Dreadnought* crane was based on the authority of the secretary of the Thames Ironworks, and inasmuch as the secretary has now been thrown over by the chairman, the First Lord has, in turn, thrown over the two of them. That is as it should be—and as it should have been from the first.

Can this be true? The story comes to us from one of our readers :—

> A great fuss was made when the foundation stone for the new Post Office Buildings was laid by the King, but during the time that the foundations were being got out the stone was removed, and later on it found a new resting-place some thirty yards from its former position. It was understood at the time that sundry coins and documents were placed under the stone. What became of these ?

We shall be having somebody getting up in the night and removing Cleopatra's Needle next. We wonder how many of our readers know what was placed under its foundation stone.

This from the *Daily Mail* :—

> The twin sisters Blazek, who are known to the world as the successors of the famous Siamese twins and who, like them, have the misfortune to be joined together inseparably, recently entered a hospital at Prague, where Rosa, one of the twins, yesterday became the mother of a fine boy. Josephine, her inseparable sister, expresses great surprise at the event.

Josephine must be the most unobservant and casual young lady in the world. In any case, we hope *she* suffered no pain. Rough if she did !

What has become of the Duke of Leinster ?

By this time, Lord Rosebery should be about tired of giving advice which nobody wants and nobody takes. His latest appeal is to the Tories to drop Tariff Reform at the next General Election. Not likely. They know how many votes it won them in the last one.

One of the latest dicta of Judge Willis is, "Oh, if people would only follow the example in the Scriptures, 'And she told him the whole truth'!" But has his Honour ever met anybody who knew it?

Mr. Cosmo Hamilton is probably correct in saying that in almost every theatre the young actress is forced into a leading position nearly twenty years beyond her reach. But has Mr. Hamilton considered the fact that she is usually as cheap as she is young?

The Eastbourne ratepayer who writes to us inquiring whether Mr. Asquith meant what he said at the Municipal Corporations banquet in offering to exchange his place as Premier with that of the Duke of Devonshire as Mayor of Eastbourne, is hereby assured that the right hon. gentleman did not. The offer was made subject to the impossible adjustment of insuperable difficulties; otherwise the Duke would probably have closed on the spot.

We shall have to keep a watchful eye on the Retford magistrates, who a few days ago fined a man £1 and costs for taking two eggs which he found in a hedge. The eggs were valued at 2d. Query: What is the value of these magistrates?

The *bête noir* of the Gainsborough Bench is evidently the poor hungry devil who tramps the road begging a crust and sleeping out by the way. A commercial traveller tells us that being on the railway platform at Gainsborough recently, he saw two cleanly-looking lads handcuffed together. They were on their way to do seven days' hard labour in Lincoln prison. Out of employment, they had walked five miles with the object of finding work on a steam trawler at Grimsby. Unluckily, a policeman saw them asking for bread at a cottage, and ran them in. Though they had never previously been in trouble, the magistrates sentenced them as stated, and the police did the rest. Seven days' hard labour and handcuffs for lads of 18 or 19, charged with begging a little food for their empty bellies! An outrage on human feeling!

By the way, our recent reference to the case of the Kingston railway porter, sentenced to a month's imprisonment at Barnes for stealing a penn'orth of milk from a churn in the railway station, has had a pleasant sequel. The London and South Western Railway have again taken the young fellow into their employment. Our salutations to the directors.

We have already stated that the Hayward's Heath magistrates are unfit for their job, and now we want to ask whether Inspector Brooman, the policeman-in-chief for the district, is fitted for his. "Charles Bulbeck was sentenced on my own recommendation," he told an *Express* reporter; "I take entire responsibility for the affair. . . . I have sent many such boys to training ships, with excellent results in every case." The cool effrontery of this swollen-headed police officer is almost hair-raising. "I should like to say," he went on, "that if all the facts of the case had been disclosed in court and reported, there would have been no outcry at all." Then are we to take it that this superb specimen of the force is in the habit of putting "facts" before the magistrates which he does not disclose as evidence in open court? If so, it must be a pretty risky thing to live at Hayward's Heath. Had not the inhabitants better petition for his removal to another sphere of labour?

Advertisements emanating from the office of Messrs. William Porteous and Co., Glasgow, have been inviting applications from draughtsmen for employment in the Straits Settlements. The salary offered was good, but a large number of highly-qualified men were excluded by the announcement, "unmarried preferred." In our view, a condition of this kind is in most cases not one which should be imposed. It operates as a premium against marriage among the fittest. We should like to see a general understanding among newspapers that all advertisements of the "unmarried preferred" and "no encumbrances" order shall be rigidly excluded.

We note the decision of the London County Council to include in its official exhibit at the Japan-British Exhibition an Inebriates' Home, a Sewage Works, a Coroner's Court, and several volumes of statistics. Seeing that there is to be a Japanese Garden, why not exhibit examples of the costliest flowers in Europe. The Clerk of the Council could easily collect them from the Aldwych Waste.

Mr. Tom Wing, the sparkling M.P. for Grimsby, went down to his constituents the other day to present the prizes at the local Men's Own. In addressing his audience afterwards, he "assured his hearers he had not seen any handsome people since he left Grimsby." Mr. Wing knows best whether his eyesight is as good as it ought to be; but certainly it is almost a wonder that none of his audience in wantonness of sport arose to remind him that in recognition of the extreme ugliness of Grimsby ladies, and as a mark of sympathy, Queen Elizabeth conferred certain lands and privileges upon them and their heirs for ever, and that those privileges, which carry with them the freedom of the town, they enjoy to this day.

Is it the fact that whilst the Budget was hung up, Scotch whisky houses who declined to pay the extra duty were requested to increase the deposits on the conduct of their bonded warehouses—and was Ireland exempt from this condition?

The Hon. J. C. Lyttelton, M.P., must join the John Bull League. "In the short time I have been in the House of Commons," he says, "I have seen enough to convince me that I shall not be wedded to the Party system. I have a much higher ideal than that of the way in which the affairs of the country should be managed." A very good beginning.

The late Mrs. Russel, of Halstead, Kent, apparently had a heart which felt for others. By her will she has left about £35,000, so it is reported, to be partly applied "to the maintenance of a home for lonely ladies who have been deserted by their husbands and have no homes to go to." Widows out at grass need no longer mourn. But it is not stated what the scheme of entertainment is to be.

A Methodist contemporary laments the decline of Methodism throughout the land. In the three Methodist denominations there has been an unbroken retrogression for the last four years. "It is well to face the matter," we are told, "and recognise that the sky is not bright." Can it be that Methodism has outlived its day, and that more and more people are demanding an evangel which will help to brighten rather than depress their practical lives? That we are all sinners cannot be denied—but there is really no good reason why we should be miserable ones.

Signs of the times. Mr. John Burns's son, walking through the lobby in evening dress, and Mr. Keir Hardie promenading the terrace with a button-hole of primroses!

Some of the effects of the lengthy domination of the unco' guid in Scotland are beginning to show themselves, to the great concern of our contemporary, the *Scotsman*. It appears that less than a fourth of the total population of "Caledonia, stern and wild," attend church. It therefore seems that the Sunday closing and early closing of public houses, and the prohibition of barmaids, not only conduce to drunkenness, but also to abstention from church-going; for it is in the cities where these puritanical restrictions exist that the falling off of church membership is most conspicuous. One of these days, perhaps when it is too late, the Killjoys of bonnie Scotland may realise that after all righteousness of life may flourish side by side with reasonable individual liberty. To paraphrase a well-known proverb, "You may shut a Scotsman oot o' the public hoose, but ye canna' mak him gang to the kirk."

The Rev. J. H. Shakespeare suggests a union of all the Nonconformist Churches of England. We beg to suggest the following handy and comprehensive title for the proposed amalgamated society: The Wesleyanprimitivenewconnexionbiblechristianunitedandunitedfreemethodisticalcongregationalbaptisticalcalvinisticsalvationunitarianquakingshakingmoravianswedenborgianlatterdaysaintlyplymouth Brethren.

Apparently the Germans are not to have our Army and Navy appointments all to themselves. In the report of a Belfast police court case, one of the witnesses was Mr. W. L. Witkowski, "a clerk in the Army Pay Office." Not yet is Poland lost.

In the Report of the Board of Education, just published, it is stated that there is no surplus of Elementary teachers! This is about the most frigid official inexactitude we have come across for some time. There are hundreds of trained teachers unable to secure appointments—and every hundred has cost the country between £20,000 and £30,000. Some of them are to-day trying to earn a living as waitresses, and even as barbers' assistants.

Poets, as a class, are stupid and irritating enough in all conscience without there being any need to collect and feed their descendants. Yet some eccentric person has been organising a banquet in honour of these melancholy examples of heredity. It was very rough on the House of Lords.

Mr. F. E. Smith, M.P., like all busy men, does not always verify his quotations. In speaking on the Veto resolutions he was rather out in his reference to the Captain and the Walrus, and in his jibe at Mr. Lloyd George on the O'Brien business, he stated that the most appropriate words he could think of applying to the Chancellor of the Exchequer were those of "the well-known couplet, 'Here lies King Charles, our King, whose word no man relies on.'" The complete lines were not in the form of a couplet, however, but of a quatrain, and were written on the bedroom door of the "merry monarch, scandalous and poor," by the Earl of Rochester: "Here lies our sovereign lord the King, Whose word no man relies on; He never says a foolish thing, Nor ever does a wise one." As applied to Mr. Lloyd George the first two lines deny somewhat less than is rightly due to the right hon. gentleman's moral status, while the last two would be equally inaccurate.

According to the Attorney-General, "the Lord Chancellor's authority to remove a man from the bench is confined to cases of misconduct." If this is so, Justices of the Peace who do injustice through flagrant incompetency may breathe freely. They have a situation for life.

Will the vicar of Holywell, in Hertfordshire, be good enough to explain by whose orders or sufferance the churchyard is turned into a grazing ground for sheep? It seems that recently the cemetery was barred at all the entrances with hurdles, and that while the graves of well-to-do people were protected, those of the poorer classes were being trodden underfoot by a flock which had been put in to fatten on the herbage. It is a very discreditable condition of things; and the vicar should have sufficient reverence for "God's Acre" to take care that it never occurs again.

The new vicar of St. John's, Knaphill, announces that he cannot permit card games, dancing, and theatricals in connection with the church work of the parish. What about bazaars and concerts, which are also believed to be among the crafts and assaults of the devil?

In common with many more bodies of its sort, the Dewsbury Free Church Council appears to think that because a man is a publican he should be debarred from most, if not all, the rights and privileges of citizenship. The impudent proposition of this fussy little cult of puritans is that "it is not desirable that anyone directly interested in the drink trade should serve on the Watch Committee." We suppose they haven't any objection to anybody directly interested against the drink trade serving on the Watch Committee?

Canon Tupper Carey, of York, has remarkable inspirations. He had one of them in meeting a man carrying a bundle of old clothes to a church rummage sale, namely, to ransack the bundle and pick out a pair of boots, which he purchased for 2s. after the man had asked 4s. "They were excellent boots," said the Canon proudly, in telling the story to Lowestoft parishioners, "and I am wearing them at this moment." We always thought the idea of these church rummage sales was that of benefiting the poor. From this point of view, the rev. gentleman's action was about as mean as it could well be. Nothing to brag about, anyway.

Writing from Waikato, New Zealand, one of our readers says we ought to have a few branches of the John Bull League out there. In Auckland, everything is shut up on Sundays except the Sabbatarians. Having regard to what he tells us, we trust Germany will not think of invading New Zealand on a Sunday, as the Colony will then have only mission bands to protect it; and if the Teutons don't take fright at the noise, it will be done for.

Mr. Dudley Ward, the correspondent referred to, sends us a newspaper in which appears an account of a police-court case against a man charged with being an idle and disorderly person. The sub-inspector gave evidence that the man was "really doing no harm, but was just wandering about." He added that prisoner was of weak intellect, but was not considered a fit subject for a mental hospital. "The accused," says the reporter, "was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour." Are those New Zealand magistrates in any way related to the Hayward's Heath bench in England?

Another food firm has been laid by the heels for libelling the industrious Irish hen. This is the Oxford Co-operative and Industrial Society, Limited; fined £5 and costs the other day on each of three summonses for exposing for sale six weeks' old Austrian eggs and describing them as "Irish," and "New Laid." For the benefit of other firms in the provision business, we may say at once that it is risky to assume the inspectors of the Irish Agricultural Association are not about.

We have sometimes commented upon the disregard by ministers of religion of the Scriptural injunction not to lay up to themselves treasure upon earth. Hitherto most of those absent-minded parsons have been clergymen of the Church of England. We observe, however, that the late Mr. J. A. Picton—for some years M.P. for Leicester, and previously a Congregational minister in that town—has left a fortune of between forty and fifty thousand pounds. We have not up to the present seen any list of charities which are to benefit under the will.

Alderman Hinton, of Darlington, appears to think that if the local police are granted one day's rest in seven the conditions of their service should be revised by the Watch Committee to compensate the ratepayers for the cost of their day off. It is true that the police have regularity of employment and some advantages in the way of clothing and pension, but from a monetary point of view it may be doubted whether all this, having regard to their pay, puts them in a better position than is possible to the average artisan. On the other hand, the average artisan has his Saturday afternoon and Sunday off, which the policeman has not, and his individual responsibilities are hardly as great. But the main point to look at is that the value of a policeman is in proportion to his efficiency as a public guardian, and work without rest does not tell for efficiency. The Darlington artisan would soon kick if he were called upon to work on Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

That the lowness of a man's wages cannot excuse, though it may palliate, dishonesty, cannot be too strongly emphasised. Men are to be judged by the pressure of circumstances, however, and it is not to be denied that in the case of the accountant charged with robbing the Exeter firm of Mortimer Brothers of a large quantity of drapery goods, the man's offence was largely explainable by the slender wages paid to him. After 18 years' service with this firm, he was in receipt of 22s. a week, and he had been a married man for ten years or more. No doubt the magistrates took this fact into consideration when they passed their lenient sentence.

Touching that paragraph we had recently, anent a German who was rejected as physically unfit for the German Army, took out naturalisation papers in London, and "joined the Territorials with the view of becoming an officer," we remarked that "perhaps Mr. Haldane is hopeful of turning inferior Germans into superior Englishmen." Now what will Mr. Haldane turn this other man into? He is a recruit in the Worcestershire Territorial Yeomanry. He lost his rifle at a review on Salisbury Plain last year; it canted out of the bucket and the sling slipped off his arm during a gallop-past before the Brigadier-General. The recruit could not pull up; had he tried he would have been ridden down by others following, with the probable result that half-a-dozen men and horses would have been mixed up in a heap. But after the parade the recruit informed his corporal, and together they searched for some time to try to find the rifle. They could not. The incident was reported to the proper quarter. Nine months afterwards, *i.e.*, a few weeks ago, the lad—an apprentice of 20—was summoned before the Sparkhill magistrates for £2 2s. 10d., the value of the rifle. The Bench dismissed the case, saying there had been no negligence, and the charge ought never to have been brought. How many "Terriers" will this case get Mr. Haldane's recruiters in that locality?

"Will the Society for the Assistance of Ladies in Reduced Circumstances tell us what the "etc." stands for in this item of the accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1908, "Postages, Carriage of Parcels, Commission on Postal Orders, etc., £470 2s. 1d."?

Mr. Haldane is "going the rig teapot," as they say in Yorkshire; having ordered the 5th Reserve Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers at Hounslow to be increased by an additional private. The battalion is now ready for the fray. Whenever the call comes, it will strike as one man.

We wonder what the people of Wantage think of the magistrates who are put over them to fulfil the law and execute judgment. "John Palfrey, a lad of 17," says the *Newbury Weekly News* under the heading "Wantage Petty Sessions," "who said he did not know how to do the work, was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment for refusing to perform task work at the workhouse." On the face of the facts it is a vicious, iniquitous sentence. It is inflicted on a boy, and as so often happens, he will have served it before the attention of the Home Secretary can be drawn to it. It is no use asking how such magistrates get on the bench, because the Lord Chancellor will probably tell us that the Lord-Lieutenant of the county recommended 'em. Perhaps he liked the colour of their politics.

We are not often in favour of hoaxes, but we really admire the Paris artists who employed a donkey to paint a picture with its tail and explained that the result was a "triumph of excessivism." "Excess is a force," said the ass's representatives, "the only force. The sun is never too ardent, the sky never too green, the distance seems never too red, darkness never too black, just as heroes are never too bold and flowers never too sweet." Evidently, therefore, a fortuitous conglomeration of vivid colours is the highest expression of art. Certes, the hanging committee of the Salon thought so, for they welcomed the work of Brother Ass.

The *Saturday Review*, taxed with misquoting Dickens, appends the following editorial note: "Yes; but one may sometimes glory in misquoting a popular book." This is all very feudal, but would it not be even more glorious to ignore it altogether?

Is it true that the torture of unconvicted prisoners takes place in American gaols? It would be interesting to know in how many countries, supposed to be civilised, torture still survives. We can vouch for Servia and Spain; we have suspicions of Austria and Portugal. On the other hand, the happiest prisoners are those in Roumania, Montenegro and, perhaps, Switzerland.

Someone has been citing Milton as an authority on divorce. But "that barbarian" (as Voltaire called him) was not precisely a model of conjugal decency. He certainly ought not to have been allowed the custody of his daughters.

It appears that the Post Office is protected by statute against claims for damages due to official carelessness. This cannot tend to promote accuracy and business methods. It is all right that the department should have a monopoly, but it is monstrous that the monopoly should carry with it a privilege of mischief.

We fear that our hon. friend, Mr. S. L. Hughes, M.P., is losing his sense of humour since he became a member of the Dull Assembly. He has grown too strenuous in his efforts. Take, for instance, a recent article on the Somali Mullah, "that remarkable military and ecclesiastical personage, who is known at home as the Mullah Mahomed Abdulla, a style and title that suggest a music-hall chorus." Why should ordinary Moslem names be held to "suggest a music-hall chorus"? If they suggest one to Mr. S. L. Hughes, he cannot entertain a profound respect for the millions of his Mohammedan fellow-subjects. In that case, he would do well to keep his pernicious opinions *sub rosa*.

A great many communications have reached us in reference to the appointment of Sir Alfred Keogh to the Rectorship of the Imperial College of Science and Technology at South Kensington. Sir Alfred is, we understand, an Army man, with medical qualifications, having been surgeon at Woolwich Arsenal. We should like to know what are his special qualifications for the new post. At present, the appointment looks somewhat like a job.

It required considerable "face" to get up in the House of Commons during the debate on the Anderson affair and hint that it is by no means certain, even in face of the Pigott forgeries, that Parnell was not privy to the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke. But "face" is certainly not one of the things in which Mr. Campbell, the ex-Tory Irish Attorney-General, is lacking. His speech was deliberately intended to wave the red flag before the bull. Technically, there is no doubt Mr. Emmott was right in not ruling him out of order. He had said nothing for which he could be called to Parliamentary account. Parnell is dead, you see, and by some technical rules of procedure you may say of dead men what you dare not say of them if they were alive. And Mr. Campbell, being a lawyer, relies on technicalities. *De mortuis nil*, etc., does not apply to Home Rulers.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

From a recent letter to the Editor: "It's all very well for you to ridicule the Veto and call it a vegetable, *but if you had seen as much of the evils of the drink traffic as I have*, you would know better."

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE HAS ITS EYE ON—

PROFESSOR BERESFORD PITE AT THE HOUSE OF LAYMEN, WHO VIEWS "WITH THE UTMOST ALARM THE SPIRITUAL AND MENTAL DEGRADATION OF THE CADDIES," WHO, FOR LARGE SUMS OF MONEY WERE BRIBED TO DEGRADE THE LORD'S DAY.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICE.—No more biscuits for births, deaths, or marriages, which creep into the wrong column. Much too gruesome to be funny!
OLD WOMEN.—Biscuits are uncompromisingly denied to papers alluding to "old women of both sexes." There are so many of them.
WEDDINGS.—No biscuits for bridegrooms wearing picture hats and crepe de chine. Why shouldn't they?

For announcing: "*For sale, fancy silk bonnets for* BABIES OF VARIOUS DESIGNS AND COLOURS,"
THE BOMBAY FOOTWEAR CO.
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "the deceased was a large farmer, covering many acres in extent,"
THE EVESHAM JOURNAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following passage: "A deep flood of crimson dyed the heavily moulded cheeks, and beneath the black crape of her bodice her breast rose and fell in VIOLET *agitation,"*
THE WRITER OF A SERIAL IN *THE DAILY EXPRESS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following report: "The Vicar said he would like to call their attention to the DEAD TREES *in the churchyard. There were about three that would have to come out.—Mr. Donson proposed, and Mr. Penny seconded, and it was unanimously carried, that it be left to the Churchwardens to get the work done at once before* THE NEW LEAVES APPEARED,"
THE RETFORD, WORKSOP, ISLE OF AXHOLME, AND GAINSBURGH NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For drawing attention to "the fact that Lady Day falls on the 25th of March THIS YEAR,"
THE DAILY CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following description of Mount Etna: "The traveller regards it WITH DELIGHT, *not unmixed with awe, when he remembers that history has laid to its account no fewer than* EIGHTY GREAT CATASTROPHES, *in which* 100,000 *lives have been sacrificed, to say nothing of towns and villages overwhelmed in ashes and lava,"*
THE DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that "One large firm's mixed pickles are packed in bottles to a certain pattern, to which the GIRLS ARE TRAINED ALWAYS TO ADHERE,"
GROCERY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For advertising a sale of "*HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, *viz., 2 cows, 2 pigs, about 1 ton mangolds, butt of hay (about 1 ton), and about 1 ton potatoes, dairy utensils, &c.,"*
MESSRS. SIMON AND SON, OF PEMBROKE,
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For the following passage in a story: "In spirit, Stanton groaned and tore his hair, and finally commanded her to be SILENT AND TELL HIM EVERYTHING. *To his surprise she meekly obeyed, and between her sobs she told her tale,"*
A WRITER IN *THE PENNY MAGAZINE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following advertisement: "For sale, four second-hand JUVENILE PIGS. *For particulars apply to the makers,"*
AN ADVERTISER IN *THE WORLD'S FAIR*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "it was expected that the Newcastle side would include at least FIVE SCOTSMEN AND ONE IRISHMAN, IN MCCRACKEN,"
THE BIRMINGHAM SPORTING MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For awarding us a biscuit for the phrase, "Chopping off the heads of the Opposition with the rope of the public hangman," and not noticing that it was a paraphrase of the quotation immediately preceding it—"Killing by the slow poison of the guillotine,"
ABOUT A HUNDRED *JOHN BULL* READERS
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Sir Edmund C. Cox.

Dear Sir Edmund,—In an article appearing in the *Nineteenth Century*, you say—referring to the Anglo-German situation :—

"Is there no alternative to this endless, yet futile, competition in shipbuilding? Yes, there is. It is one which a Cromwell, a William Pitt, a Palmerston, a Disraeli, would have adopted long ago.

"This is that alternative—the only possible one. It is to say to Germany: 'All that you have been doing constitutes a series of unfriendly acts. Your fair words go for nothing. Once for all, you must put an end to your warlike preparations. If we are not satisfied that you do so, we shall forthwith sink every battleship and cruiser that you possess. The situation that you have created is intolerable. If you are determined to fight us, if you insist upon war, war you shall have; but the time shall be of our choosing, and not of yours, and that time shall be now.'"

In the course of my speech at the inaugural meeting of the John Bull League, at the Albert Hall, on October 21st, 1909, I made use of the following words :—

"I want to ask you what a Business Government would do. I will tell you what I think it would do. It would say to the other Powers, 'Whatever is going to happen in the future, we are to-day the strongest and the richest nation in the world, and there must be an end of this mad race for armaments. If you will not stop it of your own accord, whilst we still have the power we will exercise it. . . . If you are not content with your present naval strength, we will see that it goes no further, and we will come now and sink your ships to the bottom of the sea.'"

I am gratified to find a gentleman of your authority and eminence endorsing the opinions I then expressed. At the same time it would be interesting to trace back to its source the policy with regard to which we find ourselves in such complete agreement. I will not venture to claim its original inception, because it is hard to know what is in the minds of one's fellow men. But I believe I am justified in claiming the credit for having been the first to give the policy in question public expression, and I am obliged to you, on patriotic grounds, for having given my ideas publicity in the *Nineteenth Century*, which, whilst not enjoying the circulation of John Bull, wields a considerable influence in a restricted sphere. John Bull.

To Michael Maybrick, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Ryde, and H. H. Pollard, Esq., J.P., Ryde, Isle of Wight.

Gentlemen,—It affords me much pleasure to notice that in the case of an eighteen-year-old lad, undoubtedly guilty of stealing a bicycle and subsequently disposing of it, you took a humane view of the case. I have no doubt whatever that the majority of magistrates not only assume that they must punish all offences because they are empowered to punish them, but that their duty is not done unless punishment is inflicted. That seems to me, as you lead me to hope it does to you, an utterly erroneous idea of the functions of magistracy. Justice is by no means wholly concerned with punishment, and this fact the Legislature has recognised, for instance, by the Act relating to first offenders. Magistrates, as well as the higher judges, have indeed a large discretion as to the infliction of punishment; and apart from temperament and competency I am inclined to think that many of them go wrong in reading a brutal "must" into a humane "may."

It was put before you with commendable fairness by the Chief Constable that the young man in this case had never been taught a trade, and that he had been drifting about the country for some years practically without a chance. You could have branded him as a criminal. But you bound him over for twelve months, "and in the meantime"—I am quoting your own kindly words, Mr. Mayor—"the Chief Constable and the probation officer will assist the Bench to see whether they can find him something to do." I shall be sorry, gentlemen, if this young man should disappoint your hopes. Whether he does or does not, you have said the right word, and done the right thing.

All respects. John Bull.

To the Right Rev. Dr. Knox, Bishop of Manchester.

Dear Bishop,—Excuse me for suggesting it, but haven't you put yourself in a quandary? Your recent sermon disclosed that not fewer than forty extra curates are wanted in Manchester and Salford. But then you've a conscientious conviction that nearly all curates are too old over 30, and you bar applicants who are leaving other dioceses "for unsatisfactory reasons." The opportunities of selection thus narrowed, I note that you "must look to prayer as your chief hope" of "procuring men of the highest calibre spiritually, mentally, and physically." But by what process is your lordship going to weed out those applicants who are past praying for in order to come at those who *have* been prayed for?

John Bull.

To the Chairman, Baths and Parks Committee, Birmingham.

Dear Sir,—From what I hear through friends in Birmingham, there is a strong belief in the city that your committee will suitably reply to the resolution forwarded to you from the Nechells Wesleyan Adult Bible Class protesting against the continuance of Sunday boating in the West End Park, on the ground that "it is not only a desecration of the Sabbath but also detrimental to the best welfare of the young people of the city." To broad-minded Birmingham citizens the notion that Sunday boating in the park is other than harmless enjoyment and helpful physical recreation is an utter absurdity. As to this stereotyped phrase, "desecration of the Sabbath," they know it is nothing except a puritanical formula of condemnation for every popular Sunday enjoyment which does not square with the repressive gospel of a comparative handful of self-righteous Pharisees and bigots. Birmingham has always been a liberty-loving, progressive community, and it is surely well able to take care of its Sunday without narrowing or destroying any of the means or opportunities of gratifying the leisure of its people, simply to satisfy the clamour of the bethels of Chadband.

John Bull.

To E. B. Thresher, Esq., Corfe Hill, near Weymouth.

Dear Squire,—I have been reading an account of the row between yourself and the Rev. J. L. Rossiter, Curate-in-Charge of Radipole, at the last vestry meeting. As a sporting squire it is evident you are popular in the village, so popular that for a number of years you have been elected as vicar's warden. On this occasion, it seems your re-election was challenged by the rev. gentleman and several of his supporters at the meeting, apparently because you won't go to church. In fact, you admit not having been for four years; though the family pew is still there. "I am as good a Churchman as those canting devils who go about the parish," you told the meeting.

However, you explain yourself further to the *Western Gazette*, from which it appears that when the rev. gentleman called on you to inquire why you did not attend church, you told him it was "because of the cant and rot that was preached from the pulpit." Supposing all this is true, squire, the emptiness of the family pew in Mr. Rossiter's church is cogently explained. While saying this, however, permit me to add that your mental attitude towards pulpits and parsons, and particularly towards the pulpit and person of the Rev. Mr. Rossiter, suggests the propriety of your voluntary resignation of an office which can give you small pleasure. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. D. Lloyd George, M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Dear Lloyd George,—Heartiest congratulations on having been so careful in estimating the providential disappearance of so many millionaires. Dead men's shoes have certainly served you much better than living men's whisky bottles. Do you think of going into mourning?

John Bull.

Mrs. J. A. Ebsworth, Kensington.

Jury's verdict against you for £100 for breach of promise to marry young man 25 possibly cheap let off. As widow lady of 54 might have cost you more if you had married him. Bull.

Masterman, M.P., Home Office, Whitehall.

Agree not sufficient reason abolition birch as punishment for excessively naughty boys. End of birch often beginning of widsom. Bull.

OUR POPULAR HALF-CROWN SHARES.

FINAL ALLOTMENT ON MONDAY NEXT. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE IN BY THAT DATE.—SHARES ALREADY AT A PREMIUM.

We regret that it is quite impossible for us to enter into individual correspondence respecting this scheme. We have done our best to make it clear, and we *must* close the Lists by Monday. Every reader has had full opportunity of subscribing, and of thus becoming a part-proprietor, with ourselves, of this Journal, and of being able to speak of JOHN BULL as "MY PAPER."

The Shares are Half-a-Crown each. There are 200,000 of them. That is to say, £25,000 worth. They rank in all respects on an equality with 25,000 other shares, of £1 each, making £50,000 in all. The shares receive every half-year—at the end of March and September—a dividend at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum. They are called Preference Shares. But, in addition to this, they have the right of being exchanged, *at the option of the holders*, into Ordinary Shares—that is to say, the same kind of shares as those held by the founders and original proprietors of the journal. These shares take all the profits after provision has been made for the dividend upon the Preference Shares and for the establishment of a Reserve Fund. The dividend upon the Preference Shares requires only £3,000 per annum, and as the Profits are already several times that amount, and are steadily increasing, the dividend upon the Ordinary Shares should be a very large one. They will then stand at a big premium—that is to say, every £1 Ordinary Share will be worth two or three pounds. And as the Preference Shares may at any time be converted into Ordinary Shares, they will automatically also rise in price. Hence every Half-Crown Share now being issued should soon be worth Ten Shillings. But, meantime, it gets a certain Six Per Cent. dividend. We hope we have now made the matter clear. There is great demand upon our space, but at the request of many readers we print, *for the last time*, a FORM OF APPLICATION, WHICH MUST REACH THE SECRETARY, JOHN BULL LIMITED, 67, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C., NOT LATER THAN MONDAY NEXT.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

JOHN BULL LIMITED, Issue of 200,000 Readers' Shares of 2s. 6d. each.

TO THE DIRECTORS,—

I hereby apply for ..... of the above-mentioned Shares, in accordance with the terms and conditions above mentioned, and of the Prospectus filed with the Registrar. I enclose £ s. d., being 2/6 per share, payment in full, in respect of this application, upon the understanding that should any less number of shares be allotted to me, the difference in the amount payable is to be returned to me in full.

Name _____

Address _____

Description _____

Date _____

THE GIRL WHO SPELT CAT WITH A "K."

A PARABLE OF A POOR MAN AND HIS TWO DAUGHTERS.

BY MAUD BEVAN.

Once upon a time there lived a Poor Man, and he had two daughters. Now the elder of these daughters was a maid after her father's heart; she toiled and spun, and on her garments where there were hooks there also were eyes, and she learnt with diligence and would spell Cat with a C.

But the younger daughter neither toiled nor spun, and on her garments where there were hooks there were not eyes, and she learnt not and would spell Cat with a K.

And her father would upbraid her and say: "Why art thou not as thy sister? Why dost thou neither toil nor spin, and why on thy garments are there not eyes where there are hooks, and why dost thou not learn and spell Cat with a C, as other maidens?"

And the younger daughter said to her father: "Are there not many maidens such as thou describest? I am not as they."

And he bewailed, and said: "Of a surety thou art not, and woe is me that am plagued with such a brat."

But the younger daughter smiled and heeded him not, but bided her time.

* * * * *

Now the Chronicles of the country where lived this Poor Man were written by the King, and into his service came the maidens of the land, and among them the Poor Man's daughters, to make fair copies of the Chronicles.

Now when the King overlooked the Chronicles many were as fair as each other, so he set them by and heeded them not. But in one he espied that Cat was spelt with a K.

So the King sent for the maid whose copy was not as those of other maids, and who spelt Cat with a K, and summoned her to his presence.

"Why spellest thou Cat with a K, sweet maiden?" asked he.

"Because, Sire," she replied, "I know not better."

"Well spoken," quoth the King. "There is a ring of truth in thy words. Now, tell me, with what letter spelleth thou King?"

"With a K also, Sire," said she—"a capital K."

"Well spoken again," said the King.

And he looked upon her and saw that on her garments where there were hooks there were not eyes.

"And why on thy garments where there are hooks are there no eyes?" he asked.

"Must I answer thee truthfully, O King?" she replied.

"As thou wilt," said the King.

"Then, Sire, the answer is—*that they may not see*, for I am a modest maiden."

"Truly thou art not as other maids," said the King.

So the King married her, and she became possessed of all his wealth.

Then uprose the Poor Man and rejoiced and said: "Surely all may know that this was ever my favourite daughter and the apple of my eye."

And his daughter smiled and heeded him not, for such is the way of the world.

And as for the elder daughter—for many a long year she made fair copies of the King's Chronicles, and when she had reached a great age in the King's service she was turned forth to make room for a younger maid, for such is the way of the world.

But the elder daughter knew that she had toiled and spun with diligence and that always on her garments where there were hooks there always were eyes, and that she had ever spelt Cat with a C.

And it is to be hoped that she found comfort in the knowledge, for assuredly she had nought beside.

THE BROADSTAIRS LIFEBOAT:

STRANGE TREATMENT BY ROYAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION.

We have received a letter written by one of the Broadstairs Lifeboat Crew, who, in this matter, tells us that he represents not only himself but the whole of the crew, and his complaint relates to the action of the Committee of Management of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

It appears that on the morning of February 24th, the coxswain of the lifeboat received a message from the North Foreland Wireless Station to the effect that the East Goodwin Lightship had reported a large steamer apparently ashore. The coxswain cabled his assistant coxswain, and they fired the signal gun used for calling the crew together. They were soon on the spot and the lifeboat launched, the weather at the time being moderate, but afterwards it increased to a whole gale.

On arriving at the Goodwin Sands, the crew found a steamer, the *Brinkburn*, lying ashore on the east part of the sands, but the Ramsgate and Walmer Lifeboats being there already, the services of the Broadstairs men were not required, so they returned to their station. The usual report was made out and sent to the Secretary of the Lifeboat Institution with a view to payment for services rendered, and a letter was received saying that their claim would be considered at the Committee's Monthly Meeting on March 10th. The result of the consideration was that the Committee refused to pay the men for their services on the ground that the coxswain had no business to launch for anything ashore on the East Goodwin Sands.

Upon this, the Chairman of the Broadstairs Local Committee (Dr. Biddle) wrote to the Committee, who promised to reconsider their decision at their next monthy meeting, to be held on April 14th. They did so reconsider it, but only to confirm it, and they now finally refuse to pay the men for their services. The crew have, in consequence, informed the Committee that they refuse to man the lifeboat again on any occasion whatever unless and until their claim is settled; also that they intend to take legal proceedings with a view of enforcing it.

It is very regrettable that there should be this dispute. Of course, if the Broadstairs men put off without instructions and without reason, they cannot complain if the Committee refuse to pay, but we find it difficult to believe that this was the case, seeing that we have before us a copy of a telegram, from Coastguard, Forness:—

> To the Coxswain of Lifeboat, Broadstairs.
>
> The East Goodwin reports a vessel apparently ashore near her.

This message was sent from the East Goodwin Lightship to the North Foreland Wireless Station, and from there to the Coastguard Station at the Watch House, Forness, whose duty it was to let the Broadstairs coxswain know. Upon receipt of it, the coxswain deemed it his duty to put off to the vessel in distress. And who will say that he did wrong?

THE ENGLISH WAY.

HOW WE PROTECT OUR NAVAL SECRETS.

There happens to be in this country just now the Managing Director of the Four Rivers Shipbuilding Company, of New York, which has secured the order to build one of the Brazilian men-o'-war, contracts for which were given out last month. As many of our readers know, tenders were received from all the shipbuilding countries for these orders, and the Four Rivers Shipbuilding Company secured two, one of which was transferred to the New York New Jersey Shipbuilding Company. Now last October there was a big celebration in America—the Hudson-Fulton—and Sir Edward Seymour went over in the *Invincible*, at that time the newest of our ironclads, to represent England on the occasion. The type of the Brazilian warships to be built in America is almost identical with that of the *Invincible*. Whilst the *Invincible* was lying in American waters, four of the experts of the New York New Jersey Shipbuilding Company went all over her—and at the express invitation of Sir Edward Seymour. Fancy Germany inviting them to go over her latest designed warship

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?
See page iii. of Cover.

THE SOLUTION OF THE SERVANT PROBLEM.

A BATH LADY'S IDEAS.

A lady, interested in a youth, recently inserted the following advertisement in the *Church Times*:—

> Sydney, 17, excellent character, needs good home in the country as House and Garden Boy. Wages not essential.—Apply, etc.

The following is the reply she received from a Bath lady:—

> Seeing your advertisement in *Church Times* I write to say I am in want of a capable boy with good character as only servant indoors, to make himself useful in any way that is required of him. I do not mind his having had no previous experience in a gentleman's house, as long as he is quick and willing to learn. I could supply him with a page's suit for the afternoons, but he would, of course, require a good stock of other clothes, boots and shoes, underlinen, etc., as I am very particular as to his cleanliness and neatness. We are two in family, and live quietly. The house consists of three bedrooms, in use, and four sitting-rooms. His duties would be to clean rooms, empty basins and baths, wash up, clean knives, wait at table, answer the door bell, and assist me in any way that was required of him in the same way that a girl would do—such as cooking and laundry. I should give him Sunday afternoons for a walk and one evening a week from 5.30 to 8. He would be expected to attend church with me in his uniform every Sunday at 11, and can go to church three times in the day if he wishes to. I should be glad to learn from you whether you think him capable of this, whether he is strong and healthy, good housskeeper, of nice appearance and manners, clean, honest and truthful, and what time he would be free to come.
>
> *P.S.*—He would have to be downstairs by ½ to 6 and would go to bed at 9.30. I shall be glad to hear some particulars of him.

The lady requiring a cook-general and all the virtues from a lad 17 years old—for nothing except his keep—apparently forgot to add that the boy's spare time was to be employed in quarrying Bath-stone!

A MAIDENHEAD MOTHER.

BUMBLEDOM AGAIN.

We have received the following from Dr. J. W. Stone, of "Harwood," Maidenhead, Hon. Secretary of the local Boarding Out Committee:—

The Local Government Board some time ago granted a special permit to the above Maidenhead Board to board out two children, respectively 1½ and 2½ years of age, July, 1907. These said children for the past two years have been with the best of foster.mothers. A week or two ago the mother was traced, and because she had not paid the Maidenhead Union anything towards the maintenance of the said children, I, as Secretary of the Boarding-Out Committee, had notice to give the foster-mother notice of removal. To this order of the Board I took no notice, as the said mother is a well-known prostitute, and admitted she only earned by charing 7s. a week. I then received a peremptory notice to at once remove the children. This, of course, I had to obey (the red tapeism of the Maidenhead Union meant the conveyance of the children down the country to the mother, in the hope that she would return with them to Maidenhead Workhouse). The children have lost an excellent home, and have been handed over to a woman of ill-fame. So much for Bumbledom.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.

(Editors in America have, by their petitions, secured the release of a poet from prison.)

Behold a miracle beyond a doubt;
The editors, by reason of their din,
From durance vile have snatched a poet out . . . .
How many are there they would fain keep in?

OUT OF THE FRYING-PAN.

(A gentleman, head-lined in the press as "The Man with Nine Wives," has been committed for trial.)

More trouble is in store for one
On whom Fate has been rough;
We should have thought that those nine wives
Would have been trial enough!

Ricardo.

WAR OFFICE WASTE.

ILLUMINATING INSTANCES OF UNPRODUCTIVE EXPENDITURE.

By "Ex-Non.-Com."

How much longer will the long-suffering and too submissive taxpayer consent to be victimised by those terrible amateur financiers at the War Office? As anticipated, a further £325,000 is demanded at the pistol's point—and yet we had thought economy the one conspicuous, if doubtful, virtue of our present rulers! What the public should demand to know is why the ruthless reductions in personnel, equipment, etc., have brought no corresponding financial saving. We have 20,000 fewer regulars and 20,000 fewer reservists than four years ago; we have 300 fewer garrison guns; batteries of Field Artillery have only four instead of six guns; the pay of the troops (particularly those of the Departmental Corps) has been ingeniously reduced; pensions have been clandestinely curtailed to 10 per cent. of establishments; increase of the officers' admittedly inadequate pay has been refused; a considerable saving is expected as a result of the reform of the Army Finance Department, and so on—and yet the taxpayer must dip still deeper into his overstrained pocket! He is consoled by the statement that recruiting was never more brisk; and it does not occur to him to ask why various reductions in height and other standards for enlistment have had to be introduced lately; why a special concession had to be made to keep up the strength abroad of the Royal Engineers (the corps that has been hardest hit by the Proficiency Pay swindle), and whether, even if there was a glut of men, and they were in the right proportions for the various arms, it would compensate for the chronic and very serious shortage of officers! Then there is the question of India's increased contribution towards the cost of the Army. In 1906 Mr. Haldane boasted that he would effect an ultimate saving of two and a half million pounds; but so far his ruthless reductions in the Army have brought about a saving of little more than a million, judged by the present year's Estimates, which are approximately the same as for 1907-8.

But we are told that the Territorial Army will absorb the increased vote; and this is tantamount to a confession of one of the most astounding miscalculations which even the unbusinesslike War Office has ever made. For the cost of the new Army was first estimated at £2,889,000; then an addition of £625,000 was afterwards made, and now a further £325,000 is required. And yet the force is still short by 35,382 of its establishment, woefully deficient in equipment, horses, guns, and financially starved! Its cost is now only half a million below that of the old and admittedly expensive Auxiliary Forces, which were stronger numerically; but when, if ever, the Territorial Army is complete in every respect, what will remain of Mr. Haldane's initial boast of great economies? And yet inefficiency, due to stinted funds, is the cry everywhere. Not long ago a Yeomanry regiment had to appeal for £500 for its private funds; a Territorial colonel recently estimated his loss on one year's working at £400; practically every regiment has had to purchase at its own expense such military essentials as range-finders, Solano targets, and binoculars; whilst the result of War Office interference is shown in the fact that the Warwickshire County Association has been forced to an outlay of at least £1,200 in connection with ambulance organisation in order to comply with official fads, when the whole thing would have been carried out by the County Council for £750.

Again, Mr. Haldane has made great boast about the cost of the new cavalry depots, without mentioning that one of the economies to balance it is his abolition of the rank of Riding-master (one of the few commissions formerly open to the "ranker") throughout the cavalry. In addition, there is to be no quartermaster at each of the depots—and thus another of the "ranker's" plums is swept away. On the other hand, the post of Inspector of Cavalry is to be re-instituted shortly, the salary for which is fixed at £1,200, or an increase of £400! But it is always the case that when economies are to be effected in War Office establishments, the ex-soldier clerks and messenger who are employed at rates outrageously inadequate are the first to go, but the high-salaried official do-nothings are retained.

But it is precisely in the Department charged with the administration of Army Funds that one finds the plainest evidence of waste of public money. For instance, it is little short of amazing that after the Army had been reduced all round, and there were exactly 385,000 fewer sovereigns to distribute as the pay of officers and men, an increase of £8,000 on account of "War Office and Army Accounts Department" had to be met! Apparently, therefore, the less money there is to handle and the fewer the troops to be paid, the more pay clerks are required. This is an astounding anomaly that no civilian business firm would tolerate for an instant. In the same year, 1907, the actual War Office salaries had risen to £271,750, or an increase of £4,200 over the previous year. Nor have matters mended since; for a thorough investigation made secretly a short time ago showed that a sum approximating to £30,000 a year was being paid away on practically useless financial officials—chief accountants, etc., at £1,000 a year each who, in many cases handicapped administration, interfering with the work of responsible officers, flaunting their own autocratic decisions, and causing friction with the hardworking and ill-rewarded Army paymasters who bore the real responsibility. Nor need this be wondered at when we look at the staff:—A Financial Secretary at £1,500 a year, a Director-General of Army Finance at £1,800, three other financial directors at £1,200 each, eight principals at from £850 to £1,000 each, and eight Assistant Principals at from £700 to £900 a year each, besides numerous clerks, examiners, accountants in the chief commands, etc.; whereas under the Brodrick *régime*, for instance, only a Financial Secretary at £1,500, an Accountant-General at £1,500, and a Director of Contracts at £1,200 were the chief financial heads specially mentioned in the salary list.

But it is easy to find some explanation for the increasing expenditure outside the Financial Department. Only a few months ago a Colonel was appointed to a staff appointment as Brigadier at the War Office and his salary was fixed at £1,500 a year. But there are even officers holding only substantive colonel's rank at the War Office who are drawing very nearly this highly-flattering sum, and yet the salary of a Brigadier-General on the General Staff is fixed at only £1,000 a year. It would seem, indeed, that there is a decided tendency to be lavish in the case of the higher staff officers—which may account for the fact that the oversweated regimental officers are pecuniarily starved. For only a few years ago Inspector-Generals, etc., holding the rank of Major-General and even Lieutenant-General, had to be content with £1,500 a year; the Inspector-General of Remounts had £300 a year less, and the Director-General of the Army Veterinary Department had to be happy on £850! In the present case the blame must be laid at the door of the War Secretary, as, unfortunately, he has practically a free hand as to the salaries to be attached to special new appointments. On the Continent the highest officers can be happy on far less, simply because they are content with their own modest household establishment, they have no appearances to keep up, nor do they find it necessary for their social or professional preferment to give ruinous entertainments.

But there is no end to the tale of unproductive expenditure begotten of changes in military policy, ill-considered schemes, and the plethora of War Office inexpert amateurs in business matters. Buildings were planned and commenced on Salisbury Plain and elsewhere under one precious scheme which can never be occupied under another; and one wonders whether the cavalry depots, now in course of formation, will suffer a like fate. And as an instance of sheer lack of forethought it may be mentioned that a shed was built at Aldershot a short time ago for the construction of an "elongated balloon"; but by the time the shed was completed other buildings had been erected in the vicinity which prevented the balloon from getting the necessary access to the upper air! The total losses in a period of twelve months from minor mischances were estimated at nearly £2,000, among which were such items as £232 8s. 5d. (value of gold lace deficient at the Royal Army Clothing Factory); £92 9s. 1d. (pension overpaid to a soldier's widow); £106 13s. 4d. (stores missing on the abandonment of Wei-Hai-Wei); £282 (value of Q.F. cartridges deficient during transit from Bloemfontein to Woolwich); and £299 6s. 1d. (the total of minor amounts written off as "irrecoverable"). As final instances of atrocious business management, it may be mentioned that land purchased near Clock Point for £13,050 was sold two years later for £10,000; and a site purchased at Barbadoes for £1,000 was sold later for £20!

AMAZING SENTENCE OF ALTRINCHAM JUSTICES.

ANOTHER CASE FOR THE HOME SECRETARY.

We have to draw the attention of the Home Secretary to another abominable sentence of magistrates on the Commission of the Peace. In the town of Altrincham, six miles from Manchester, lives a man named Gillebrand; indeed, he has lived there for twenty years. He is well known to the inhabitants and the police as a harmless, inoffensive, half-witted creature, who gets his living and supports his old mother by distributing bills. There is nothing against his character. During the twenty years he has lived in the town he has never been known to harm man or beast.

On Monday, April 18th, this man was charged at Altrincham Sessions on the complaint of a boot and shoe dealer named Hildage for doing wilful damage to a door to the extent of 15s. The magistrates on the bench at this time were Mr. G. F. Armitage (chairman, and leader of the P.S.A. movement in the town), Mr. J. H. Grafton, Mr. W. E. Thompson, Mr. H. C. Clanahan, Mr. J. A. Morris, Mr. F. B. Dunkerley, and Mr. S. Butler. In order to get the facts in the right order and to bring into relief the spirit in which the prosecutor in the case brought Gillebrand into court, it is convenient here to quote the opening statement which Mr. Keogh, his solicitor, made on his behalf. "Mr. Keogh," says the local newspaper, "appeared for the complainant. He said the defendant was only half-witted. Mr. Hildage did not wish to prosecute the man unnecessarily, but he desired that the constant annoyance to which he had been subjected by the defendant during the last six months should be stopped." Not the least objection is to be taken to the form or matter of this statement; even a half-witted man has no right to annoy other people or damage their property. But what is peculiar in this case is that Mr. Hildage did not prove the damage. He left that to his wife, whose story was that she heard two or three kicks at the front door while she was sitting in the kitchen, and that on opening the door "she just escaped being kicked by the defendant, who had, it was found, smashed in the bottom panel and the woodwork round it." Of course, the panel might have been smashed by anybody at any time previously; but we make no point of that. The point we do make is that the evidence of Mrs. Hildage was not corroborated in any single particular.

Called upon for an explanation, Gillebrand denied that he had kicked the door or smashed the panel. "There was no kicking," he said. "I knocked loud with my fist," adding that Mr. Hildage owed him some money. "I am sure I don't wish to annoy him if he will pay me what he owes me," said Gillebrand to the magistrates. It is only fair to say that Mr. Hildage alleged he owes the man nothing, and that "Inspector Richardson said he had warned the defendant several times about his conduct"—not, presumably, about his conduct in kicking in the door panels, but about his general conduct towards Mr. Hildage. In other words, Gillebrand, as he admitted, had several times called at the house to collect a few shillings which, on his story, the prosecutor owed him. There is on the facts some doubt in the case whether this half-witted bill distributor kicked the door or did any damage at all. Whether he did or did not, it is clear that at one part of the proceedings the prosecutor was willing to withdraw the summons on Gillebrand apologising and undertaking not to repeat the offence with which he stood charged. It was only when Gillebrand denied the allegations and persisted that Hildage would not pay 4s. owing to him that the solicitor for the prosecution went on with the case.

Taking the most unfavourable view of Gillebrand's conduct, can any reasonable person say it was such as to merit vindictive, or even severe, punishment? A small fine, or a warning, would have met all the requirements of the case. But these Altrincham justices, with the leader of the P.S.A. movement in the chair, were set on merciless punishment. They apparently determined not only to stagger this poor devil with the crack in his crown, but the prosecution and the police as well. "We cannot allow such conduct to continue," announced the chairman; "defendant will have to go to gaol for a month." As against the accused, the prosecution had asked for the protection of the law; they did not anticipate that their action would set in motion against him the spiteful ruffianism of the justiciary. We are not surprised to learn that the people of Altrincham are crying shame on the magistrates who inflicted this unconscionable sentence on a man who never in his life before had been judged guilty of any offence. He is now in Knutsford Gaol, where he is likely to remain until the mercy of the Home Secretary or the completed sufferance of a discreditable judgment opens the gates of liberty.

AN ISLE OF WIGHT SCANDAL.

SHOCKING CONDITIONS AT THE SANDOWN AND SHANKLIN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Our attention has been directed to the scandalous state of things prevailing at the Isolation Hospital for Sandown and Shanklin—an institution not under the control of the Local Government Board, but run by the boarding-house keepers and townspeople generally for the "protection" and satisfaction of their visitors.

The building from the outside certainly looks attractive. There are two wards—one for scarlet fever, with a space partitioned off for the nurses' room, and one for diphtheria cases. A Mrs. Barnes is matron. From her method we should not think she has ever been inside a ward. She has the charge of the fever ward, and the diphtheria cases are nursed by private nurses, who are called in from the surrounding nursing homes, chiefly from Sherwood.

In this ward there is practically nothing for use. There are beds for four patients, and the nurse is responsible for keeping clean both wards. There is one bowl supplied for washing patients, cleaning her ward and table (from which the nurse feeds), and the doctor to wash and disinfect his hands. The nurses' eating utensils, also patients', have to be washed up in the sink where patients' soiled linen is washed and disinfected, and kept in cupboard off the ward awaiting the arrival of weekly laundress. There is a so-called lavatory, which also opens into the ward, which consists of a pail (no lid), which is emptied once in 24 hours, sometimes 48; invariably stools and soiled linen have to stand about for want of water, for the supply is so short. There is not even an apology of a bath for the nurses. Their daily ablution takes place in a bowl half the size of an ordinary toilet basin. This building is half an hour's walk from the town of Sandown or Shanklin, and the cases are all paying ones. The whole show is a perfect farce and ought to be condemned. "I have been nursing for ten years, both institutional and private," writes one nurse, "and have never met anything so disgraceful. An infectious case could be nursed in a two-roomed cottage with less risks to the nurse and the general public."

We also hear of friction between the nurses and the matron. In a recent case, where the doctor had ordered a change of diet for a patient, the matron and her husband—a self-constituted master of the Home and not on the staff at all—refused to allow the change because they had not been informed of it personally; and upon a nurse endeavouring to cook an egg, in order to carry out the doctor's instructions, she received serious injuries to her face from the blazing up of the methylated spirit in an antiquated lamp.

Altogether, the condition of things prevailing at this institution constitute a scandal to the Island—and we call upon the authorities to take the matter in hand without delay.

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OUR PRIVATE THEATRE.

LITTLE PLAYS WITH TOPICAL PLOTS.

By Richard Morton.

THE MYSTERY OF THE ROCK-A-BYE VENUS.

Scene I.—*Interior of the National Gallery.* Time.—*The hour of midnight.* Great Critic, *disguised and masked, has let himself down through one of the pepper-boxes on the roof by means of a rope ladder. He carries an electric torch and a magnifying-glass. Picking his steps cautiously along the room, he comes to a halt.*

Great Critic (*in feverish excitement*): Ha, ha! The time has come. This is the moment I have waited for. This very hour shall set the seal upon my fame and prove my merits to a wondering world. Let the Director tremble; the experts shall totter to their fall, and Art itself crumble from its base, if it has such a thing. For I am the man with an eye, the one who sees. I am up to snuff. (*He presses the button and turns the light of his electric torch upon a corner of the canvas.*) Once more I remark, Ha, ha! a somewhat banal expression, but it signifies that I have the laugh of them. So this is the famous Venus, the Rock-a-bye Venus, "Venus Scratching her Back," by Velasquith. And the nation paid forty thousand pounds for this. Faugh! Pah! But we are observed.

[*Enter a* Night Watchman. *He appears rather surprised. It is the only time in twenty years that he has seen anybody in the Gallery at midnight.*]

Night Watchman: Halt, who goes there? The Gallery is not open at this hour for the admission of the public.

Great Critic: Fellow, avaunt, and leave me to pursue my task in peace.

Night Watchman: And with a light, too. An incendiary, trying to burn the Venus of Velasquith. This must not be. Wait here, while I go and ring the alarm.

Great Critic: Stay, fool. I do no damage. Your concern is unseemly. But, know thou, this canvas is no Velasquith. It was painted by his mother-in-law. I can prove it. Bid the Director of the Gallery meet me on this spot at noon, and I will prove my statements.

The Great Critic nimbly ascends his rope ladder, draws it up after him, screws on the lid of the pepper-box, gets into his areoplane, and sails away to his Brompton lodging.

Night Watchman (*who, in the day-time, writes art criticism for "The Times"*): So! This is indeed a scoop. Should this fellow do aught to prove his words, gallons of ink will be shed. I am on velvet.

Scene II.—*The same.* Characters Present: The Director of the Gallery, *very nervous*; Six Experts, *very doubting*; Great Critic, *very cocksure*; Night Watchman, *very sleepy.*

Director: If what you say is true, what am I paid for?

Great Critic: Ask me another. But, observe my proof. Here, in this corner, you will notice a curly mark like an earwig, something that may be a cross, a letter which may be a spider or a capital Z, and either a W or a K—or it may represent a bunch of asparagus. These signs I take to stand for "M.I.L.," which, in the ancient Spanish language, means "Mother-in-Law." Therefore, the picture was painted, not by Velasquith, but by his mother-in-law. Do I triumph?

Director: All is lost. It is so clear, the proof so positive. I must be resigned.

Great Critic: That's what you will have to be.

Director: What do my Six Experts say?

Six Experts: We cannot see any of the marks referred to, but we have no doubt they mean just what they are said to mean. The signature being that of his mother-in-law, the picture is certainly not signed by Velasquith.

[*Enter* One of the Public.

One of the Public: If you'll excuse me, gents, the marks are not letters at all. Some of them are flaws in the glass, one is a spot of dirt, and the other, on the canvas, is a hair out of the artist's brush.

Director: It is as this fellow says. I breathe again.

Six Experts: We knew it all along.

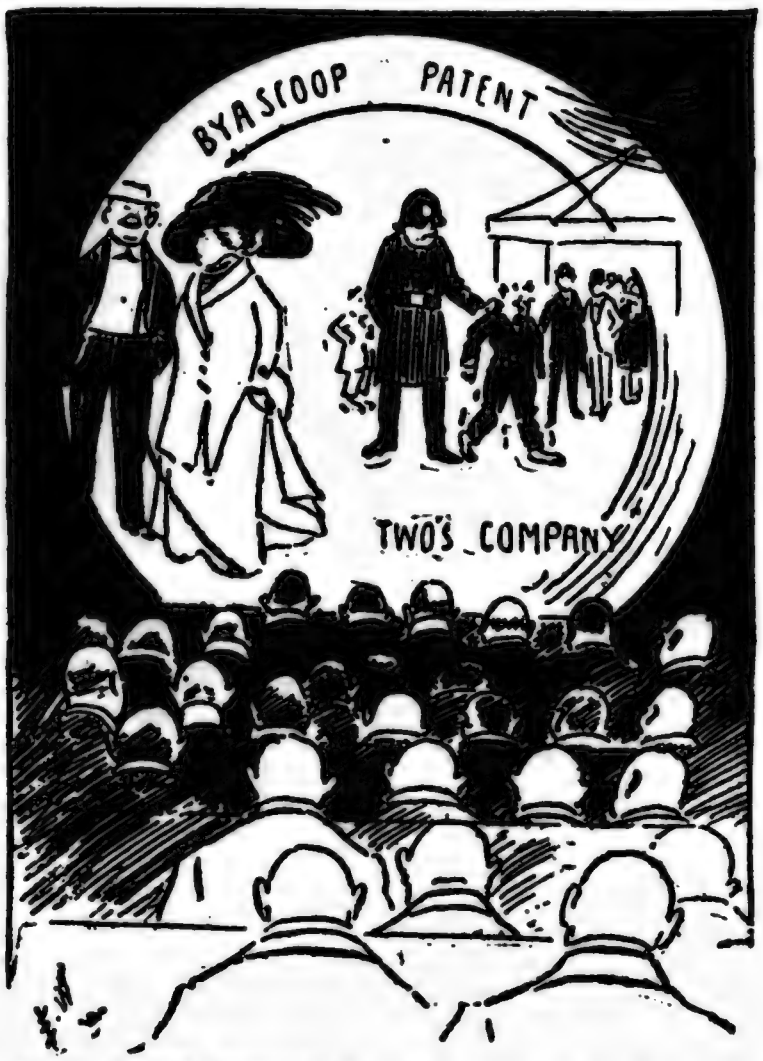
Great Critic: Foiled again!

One of the Public: If it bore the signature suggested, its value would go down to zero. So you paid forty thousand pounds for a name?

Night Watchman (*waking up*): Yes; that is Art.

THE MATINEE HAT.

(1) THE ONLY WAY TO SOLVE THE THEATRE HAT DIFFICULTY THAT WE CAN SEE IS——



(2) TO THROW PICTURES UPON THE BACK OF IT THAT THOSE BEHIND MAY GET SOMETHING FOR THEIR MONEY.

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THAT "UPRIGHT" PIANO!

In our issue of March 19th we referred to those curious advertisements which are a feature of some of our contemporaries, where the advertiser offers magnificent pianos as good as new, and the rest of it, for rubbish prices. Our attention is now directed to similar advertisements appearing in the *Weekly Dispatch*, evidently from the same hand as those to which we have already directed attention. Here is one of them :—

> PIANOFORTE.—Gentleman going abroad must sell at once his magnificent 65-guinea upright iron grand; nearly new, brilliant tone, check action, full trichord, and all latest improvements; very rich dark, plain rosewood casework, with carved pillars; maker's 20 years' warranty transferable; take £15 15s.; 3 days' approval; carriage paid both ways if not approved.—Apply after 5, Casano, 59, Lausanne Road, Peckham, London, S.E.

All these advertisements are inserted by a dealer in shoddy pianos. Our contemporary *Truth* referred to this man and his doings as long ago as 1898, and for a week or two the advertisements disappeared, but only for a short time.

Each advertisement gives a description which is false from beginning to end. The "20 years' warranty" is not worth the paper it is printed upon. It simply means that the maker warrants the piano to produce some sort of noise for the next twenty years, but does not warrant it to be as described in the advertisement. The maker professes to know nothing about the advertisement, but refers to the address of his agent, who merely sells on commission.

We have reason to believe that each agent is furnished with a receipt purporting to be for 56 or 65 guineas. The whole business is conspiracy to defraud, and the victims are usually very ignorant people who are easily bluffed or bullied if they ask the seller to take the goods back.

THE *MEN'S* CHARTER.

By a Married Man.

The series of Bills embodying many of the reforms contained in the Women's Charter drawn up by Lady McLaren, has been presented to the House of Commons by Sir Charles McLaren. Perhaps some Member representing a safe seat and with plenty of time on his hands, as well as abundant courage, will be good enough to draw up and present to the House a series of Bills embodying the main provisions of the following Men's Charter :—

(*a*) The right of the husband to conduct his own affairs without the undue interference of his mother-in-law, and the right to refuse to provide that lady with more than one week's board and lodging during the year.

(*b*) A husband who devotes his whole time to his business during the day to have a claim upon his wife's attentions during the evening, and the right to demand that all buttons shall be securely sewn on his shirts.

(*c*) Amendment of the divorce law to allow the husband to obtain a divorce on the grounds of persistent nagging or undue extravagance on the part of his wife.

(*d*) The right of the father to have some say in the training and education of such of his wife's children as are also his own.

(*e*) The right of intending husbands to demand a reasonable *dot* with their wives as a small return for their maintenance and protection.

(*f*) The right of husbands to visit their club at least one evening a week without fear of a curtain lecture on their return home.

(*g*) The right of husbands to refuse to listen to wifely gossip about neighbours without being charged with cruelty and cooling affection.

(*h*) The right of husbands to accept the caresses of their wives without the same being followed by a demand for a cheque or a new hat.

(*i*) The right of husbands to mention "the way mother used to cook" without being deluged with jealous tears.

Our readers will be interested in the Clemak Razor Company's latest production, "His First Shave," a story for shavers young and old. The lines are amusing and the book is cleverly illustrated in colours, by Arthur Bainbridge. John Bull readers can obtain one by applying to 17, Billiter Street, London, E.C.

THE UNPROTECTED FROG.

Our attention has been directed to the report of the case of a boy named Routledge (15), of Hampstead Lane, tried at Highgate for cruelty to a frog. The evidence was not very clear. Assuming that the boy was guilty of cruelty, he deserved punishment, but under what Act did the R.S.P.C.A. proceed when it took action against the lad? The magistrate had no power to punish the boy, seeing that a frog cannot be regarded as a wild animal in a state of captivity. It may surprise a good many people to know it, but it is none the less a fact that it is not illegal to pull a frog limb from limb. Perhaps this knowledge explains why the agent of the R.S.P.C.A. informed the magistrate that he did not "wish to press the case." He asked him to desire the father to give his son a thrashing.

But the magistrate had no power to sentence the boy to be birched. Why should he instruct the father as to his (real or supposed) duty in the matter? The magistrate said the boy ought to be thrashed. That was no affair of his. He said that but for the application of the Society he would have fined him—and thereby broken the law. He cautioned him, and discharged him "on paying the costs." What right had he to order the payment of the costs? If the charge was (as stated) "Cruelty to a Frog," by what statute is this prohibited? That the law against cruelty to animals might be extended with advantage we admit, and one of these days we hope to see such extension on rational lines, but at present cruelty to wild animals in a state of nature is not, in ordinary circumstances, a criminal offence, and both the agent of the R.S.P.C.A. and the magistrate ought to be aware of the fact.

CHURCH ARMY APPEAL.

A day or two ago Mr. Carlile was reported to have made what is described as an "urgent appeal" for workers and money for the latest Church Army scheme. Under it 5,000 lads are to be sent out to 5,000 families in Australia at a cost of £50,000. "For goodness sake, for God's sake," cried the Prebendary, "for the heathen's sake, hurry up, hurry up!" We do not suppose that Mr. Carlile classes the Australians to whom these lads are to be sent with the heathen, but if not, it is a pity that he has worded his appeal in a way to suggest it.

Mr. Carlile is to explain his scheme more fully to-morrow, and to say the truth, it will want a good deal of explaining. For example, what reason has he to suppose that there are 5,000 families in Australia, each willing to take one of the waifs and strays he proposes to send out? From all that can be gathered, the Australians are over slow in undertaking the responsibilities of families of their own, much less opening their doors to the unemployed from England. On the face of it, Mr. Carlile's scheme looks like a plan to supply Queensland sugar-planters with white labour, practically slave labour, in the place of Kanakas, who can no longer be obtained.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

April 25th.—C. B. Fry.

His limbs were cast in manly mould,
For hardy sports or contest bold.—*Scott.*

April 25th.—Guglielmo Marconi.

In electrical researches ever tireless.
What are you going to give us after "wireless"?
Why not for Edison's mistake atone
By giving us a silent gramophone?

April 30th.—Lord Avebury.

This day, in truth a holiday to me, shall banish gloomy cares.—*Horace.*

Mappin and Webb's First Report.—A very encouraging start has been made by Mappin and Webb (1908), the results of whose first year of trading as a limited company are shown in the report just issued. The gross earnings are £54,800 for the completed period, a total that compares very well with the three years' average of £46,000 on which the anticipations of the prospectus were based. The net profit, after deducting Debenture interest and other charges, is £32,700, and out of this the Ordinary shareholders get 7½ per cent., while £7,500 is carried forward. The Company's Paris branch has been moved to more important premises during the year, and a new branch opened in Buenos Ayres, so still further expansion of business may be anticipated.

THE

MIDLAND

Furnishing Co., Ltd.

15, 17, 19, 21, 23, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

We are 6 doors from the Holborn Restaurant and the Holborn Station of the Great Northern, Piccadilly and Brompton Railway, one minute from the Museum Station of the Central London Railway, and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

For Quality and Price.

Highest Quality at Lowest Price.

Our 1910 Guide and Catalogue is Post Free.

Large size Bed Room Suite, in Satin Walnut, consisting of wardrobe, with two bevelled shaped glass doors and drawer below, full size dressing chest, fitted with eight drawers, bevelled centre swing glass and two bevelled side swing glasses, marble top and high back washstand, fitted with pedestal cupboard and towel rails, and two cane-seat chairs. The price of the suite complete is **£11 7 6**

Furnish Out of Income Without Paying Interest.

Any article we sell may be obtained on our well-known Gradual Payment System without any interest or extra charge.

NO DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED.

COUNTRY CUSTOMERS

will find a great advantage in dealing with the Midland Furnishing Company, as their fares to town are paid on all orders of £30 and upwards, and country orders are packed free and carriage paid.

Carpets and Linos planned and laid free.

5 p.c. discount is allowed for cash.

OUR GENERAL TERMS ARE:

Worth.	Per Month.	Worth.	Per Month.
£10	6 0	£200	£4 10 0
20	11 0	500	11 5 0
50	£1 8 0	1,000	22 10 0
100	2 5 0	2,000	45 0 0

Any amount pro rata, or by other proportionate payments if desired.

THE MIDLAND FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

15, 17, 19, 21, 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

CALL NO MAN GOOD UNTIL HE IS DEAD.

By Alfred Wilson Barrett.

The great and good man was dying, and the world waited, dry-eyed, breathless, for the end.

Around his bedside were gathered his sorrowing relations and friends, his white-haired, sobbing wife, his obsequious secretaries, his grief-stricken old retainers.

Every now and then one or other of the secretaries would leave the death chamber, in response to a murmured message, whisperingly interviewing bowed, grief-stricken callers from the large world of the dying man's philanthropies. The chairman of the Orphans' Home, the secretary of the Debilitated Workers' League, the secretary of the Young Girls' Refuge, had called and gone away sorrowing. Bishops had driven up in their carriages, trotted their sturdy calves up the wide staircase, whispered, sighed, raised their eyes to heaven, and passed sadly out. Cabinet Ministers, philanthropic duchesses had called, enquired and vanished mournfully. Party funds, subscriptions, charitable gifts—all would be missing, but more than all would be missed the man whose simple goodness, whose rigid virtue, whose open life and charity and morality had been for half a century an example to a decadent generation.

The dying man, whose eyes had been closed for some time, opened them, and looked quickly round, his glance passing rapidly, even carelessly, round the little anxious throng crowding his bedrooom.

The grief-stricken relatives drew closer. He wanted something! He motioned them away, almost roughly, and beckoned to one of the secretaries.

"A priest," he said, "I want a priest."

The dying man had been for years one of the lights of the Protestant world, and the secretary stared. Then he bowed respectfully. "The Bishop of Southminster is below, sir," he said, "Shall I ask him?"

The dying man's eyes frowned at him. "Curse the Bishop of Southminster," it sounded as if he said, but the secretary knew it could not be that. "I want a *priest*. Fetch Father Curle."

"Father Curle!" The secretary opened wide eyes, but a vicious gleam—as incomprehensible as the doubtful words of a moment before—made him turn quickly to the door.

The great man's messengers sped swiftly about their business; Father Curle was soon discovered on his rounds among the lowest criminals who were his especial sheep, and by and bye, a little abashed, a little confused, timid at the fame of his penitent and the great halls he had passed through, he was ushered into the dying man's presence!

For a moment his eyes and the great man's met and looked into each other's. Then the great man nodded slowly.

"Leave the room, every one," he said.

His tone and manner were so unlike the man they had known that his friends and relations stood staring dumbly for a moment; then a swiftly hissed-out sentence sent them huddling like sheep from out the room.

The moments passed. The great clock at the head of the staircase ticked out one hour, two hours, and still the priest and the dying man remained closeted together, the door fast shut. And dumbly the watchers wondered.

Suddenly the dying man's door opened; a pale, gesticulating, terrified priest, emerging, wavered and stumbled down the staircase, and as he came his teeth violently chattered and his hands implored the heavens for mercy, for peace, for oblivion.

"Oh, woe, woe, that such things should be!" he wailed, as he broke his way through the stupefied throng. "That such a man should should have been allowed to live!

And he disappeared into the night.

For a moment everyone was still, looking after the vanished figure, looking up the empty staircase, looking each into the other's horror-stricken eyes.

Then, close together, nervous, stepping softly, they stole up to the sick man's chamber.

But he was sick no longer. He was dead. Stretched out on the bed he lay there calm and quiet, looking up at the ceiling, only on his lips there was a smile—a grin—that seemed to mock still at the hasty exit of the terrified priest, that seemed to jeer horribly, that seemed to say, "I am damned, and now you know it!"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.—LXXXVII.

Are there any of our readers who would care to lend a hand to the writer of the following letter, who is a worthy object of assistance?

Having been a regular reader of your valuable paper some years, I have been interested in your Human Documents, and now, unfortunately, I am able to be a contributor, for I think your readers will admit it is rather hard for me. I have been a clerk for nine years, and owing to disposal of business, I was thrown out of employment in December, 1908, since when I cannot obtain any regular employment, although willing to do anything for a living wage. I am 27 years of age, married, and have three children. I am also a total abstainer, a good scholar, can do manual work or clerical, not afraid of work, can drive horses single or pair; thoroughly domesticated, and yet cannot obtain work, even as labourer; during the last fifteen months I have done about ten weeks' work. My home is practically gone, and what little I had saved up has been spent through illness. I always provided against this when in work for all the family, but while out of work I have had to run out of my club. We have all been laid up since I have been out of work, my wife having only just got up from a bed of sickness, and she is still very delicate through want of proper nourishments. If any of your readers could find me any odd jobs to do, I should be very pleased, such as gardening, painting, repairing sheds, etc., as I do rough carpentering. Perhaps there is someone who would be glad to get me to do things up a bit for them now the spring is coming on. I don't mind if it's spring cleaning in the house, or anything else, as long as it's work. I am behind with rent, and likely to be told to get out any time now. My ambition is, if I could have got enough together to start with, to start a greengrocery round, as I know the trade right through, and believe I could get a living at it. If any readers would care to lend a hand in this direction, I would willingly pay them back. About £6 would start me. Having been one of the first to help others in distress, I am sorry that I should be so placed as to have to make this appeal. I have waited patiently before doing so.

We have to acknowledge, on behalf of Human Document LXXX., receipt of postal order value 3s. from J.J.H. for the writer, which has been remitted.

With reference to Human Document No. LXXXII., we have to acknowledge receipt of 10s. from "Glogan," which has been forwarded.

"THAT GERMAN CRANE."

THE TRUTH AT LAST.

It is now obvious that Mr. McKenna was misled in some of his answers to Mr. Bottomley's questions respecting the German crane being erected by the Thames Ironworks Company in connection with the building of H.M.S. *Thunderer*. First of all, it will be remembered Mr. McKenna, adopting the assumption that a considerable number of Germans would be employed, pooh-poohed the idea of their being able to obtain any secret information, on the ground that no material progress would have been made with the *Dreadnought* before the Germans left the yard. Next, he said he was in the position to give the House an assurance that one German only would be employed on the work, and now, after having his attention called to the fact that the chairman of the Thames Ironworks Company, at the laying of the keel of the ship, admitted that there would be several German erectors and engineers, Mr. McKenna says that his authority for his second statement was the secretary of the company, and in view of the discrepancy between that official's statement and the declaration of the chairman, he has now pledged himself to exercise his powers to see that nothing is done to endanger the secrets of the shipyard during the construction of the *Dreadnought*. So all's well that ends well—but it is a pity that Mr. McKenna should not have been placed in possession of all the facts at an earlier stage.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Please enrol me as a Member of the John Bull League.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Soup Stock Companies.

THE BETTATHAN RUBBER INVESTMENT CORPORATION, LTD.

(Incorporated under Consolidated Cube Act, 1911.)

CAPITAL - - - - £100,000.

Divided into 2,000,000 Shares of 1s. 1,500,000 offered for subs. at par, payable in full on allotment.

DIRECTORS.
The Right Hon. the EARL OF WAYTE AND SEE.
Colonel STRONGITHARM.
The Hon. FITTAS KANBY.
ALLWAYES KEEPWELL, Esq.

BANKERS.
COOKS' BANK, LTD., Kitchen Buildings, Meal Street.

SOLICITORS.
ADDWATER AND STIRRIT, Magic Square, E.C.

BROKERS.
ORHL DEELERS, STOCKIT AND SELL, Mincing Lane

AUDITORS.
WISEMAN AND TASTITT, Palate House, St. Ivel Place.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.
KUPFOR A. PENNY, Esq., Eastcheap, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

The Company has been formed to place within reach of the public an unlimited supply of the famous Ivelcon Cubes, which consist of pure extract of prime beef and vegetables, prepared, manufactured, and packed under ideal and supremely clean conditions. Boiling water poured over an Ivelcon cube instantly makes ready a cup of clear amber coloured consommé of delicate aroma and delicious flavour.

The word "Ivelcon" is a contraction of St. Ivel Consommé, and the wonderful cubes come from the manufacturers of the renowned St. Ivel cheese and other St. Ivel specialities. This in itself is a guarantee that "Ivelcon" is as pure and perfect as human care and skill can make it. The motto of the firm is "Everything St. Ivel is Perfect," and the fact that for eight years in succession (1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909) the St. Ivel Collection of Farm Produce has carried off the Gold Medal at the London Dairy Show proves this motto to be no idle boast, and that the manufacture of Ivelcon" is in good hands. "Ivelcon" itself won the Gold Medal at the Food and Cookery Exhibition, 1908.

To sum up, "Ivelcon" has, amongst others, the following points in its favour; it is:—

NUTRITIOUS.—Every bit of it is real food.
PALATABLE.—Its delicious flavour and appearance are most appetising.
CONVENIENT.—The cube contains the exact quantity required.
PURE.—Contains no gelatine, yeast, or chemical preservatives.
NO TROUBLE.—It can be made in a moment anywhere, and is instantly ready for use.
ECONOMICAL.—One penny cube makes nearly half-a-pint, and there can be no waste.
DIGESTIBLE.—It contains no insoluble albuminoids, and is readily assimilated in the system.

There is not a home in the land where "Ivelcon" could not be used to advantage. It competes with nothing, for nothing else is like it, but it adds distinction and refinement to a meal, is appetising, satisfying, and of genuine benefit to health.

CONTRACTS.—The Company are under contract with all dealers, stores, chemists, to supply them with Ivelcon in sufficient bulk to cope with the present extraordinary demand and to meet the anticipated still heavier demand.

PROFITS.—The estimated profits for the ensuing years are based upon the known results of past years. Investors in Ivelcon will receive splendid value for money, and the investment of a few pence will early bring them a return of good health, strength and vigour.

REPORTS.—Full and exhaustive examinations have been made by a number of independent experts, whose reports are furnished herewith.

"A new article which is assured of vast success."—*Daily Telegraph.*

"A cube of 'Ivelcon' is a most marvellous pennyworth. The makers are justified in calling it the perfect St. Ivel Consommé."—*Daily Express.*

"This delicious Consommé will be found most useful in warding off colds and giving warmth and nourishment."—*Daily Chronicle.*

"A tiny half-inch cube of 'Ivelcon' dissolved in boiling water produces instantly a perfect champagne-coloured Consommé, which, as it needs no salt or flavouring, is ready for immediate use at Luncheon, Dinner or Supper, or at any time between meals."—*Daily Telegraph.*

"One penny cube of 'Ivelcon' in boiling water produces a breakfast cup full of delicious clear champagne-coloured Consommé, with a few delicate fat globules floating on the surface."—*Daily News.*

"It has only to be tasted to be appreciated at its full worth."—*Daily Mail.*

"Good enough for the rich and cheap enough for the poor."—*Daily Telegraph.*

"Ivelcon is so good, so cheap, and so easily made, that we expect it will soon find its way into many thousands of homes."—*Daily News.*

"'Ivelcon'—Rich and Delicious. It should prove an invaluable addition to the resources of the housewife. 'Kettle, Cup and "Ivelcon"' will henceforth be her watchword."—*Daily Mail.*

"I have used 'Ivelcon' and can say that it is the best and most refreshing food beverage I have tried. In my physical culture work I am not always able to take a hearty meal, owing to my classes following too close. I tried a cup of 'Ivelcon' and found it gave me all the staying power I required. The beverage is excellent."—F. H. SHARP, Principal, Fulham School of Physical Culture.

"I have tried 'Ivelcon' and I have much pleasure in stating that I have found the soup obtained from your cubes both delicious and nourishing."—RUTH VINCENT.

"'Ivelcon' is most economical in use, and is the only concentrated beverage in which the delicate flavour of prime lean beef and garden-grown vegetables are retained in their fresh, original state."—*Evening Standard.*

VALUATION.—Experts' independent advice proves that the value of 'Ivelcon' is very great indeed.

INTEREST.—The interest taken in this unique preparation is very large, and it is fully expected that in a short time this interest will be shared by nearly 100 *per cent.* of the entire population.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES IN

The Bettathan Rubber Investment Corporation.

(Incorporated under Consolidated Cube Act, 1911).

ISSUE OF 1,500,000 SHARES AT PAR.

To the Directors—
THE BETTATHAN RUBBER INVESTMENT CORPORATION, LIMITED.

Gentlemen,—I request you to allot me one share, consisting of 12 cubes of Ivelcon, for which I enclose 1s.

Name (in full) .....

Address .....

This form to be sent with remittance to any leading grocer, or to Ivelcon, Yeovil.

THE L. & S.W. RAILWAY COMPANY AND ONE OF ITS SERVANTS.

A LEGLESS MAN AT A RAILWAY CROSSING.

A Gosport correspondent directs our attention to the case of William Gaine, now of 22, Cambridge Road, Gosport, who met with an accident by which he lost both his legs whilst working for the L. and S.W. Railway Company. Under the Workmen's Compensation Act the company agreed to pay Gaine 10s. 6d. per week, being half his average earnings prior to the accident. The residents of Richmond-on-Thames subscribed and purchased an invalid tricycle for Gaine and had him taught boot and shoe repairing. Gaine worked at this until July, 1909, receiving during this time the 10s. 6d. per week from the company. He was residing at Tisbury, near Salisbury, when a representative of the company called upon him and told him that as he was earning so much money for himself, and his wife was doing dressmaking, the company wished to close their account with him and offered him £150 in full settlement. Gaine refused this, but apparently was induced to sign a paper stating that he was in a fit state to work, and the company persuaded him to take a gatekeeper's job at 18s. per week on the Lee-on-Solent line. Owing to the rough work the wooden substitutes were broken and had to be sent to London for repairs, Gaine in the meantime being "stood off" with 9s. per week for five weeks. He has now resumed duty. Gain has to use two sticks to walk with, and it will be understood how difficult it must be for him to push open gates which are worked by hand. Apart from that, it is surely very unwise to employ a man without legs upon such work. Should the slightest mishap occur to him he would be quite helpless, and the consequences to the public safety might conceivably be very serious.

The case has been put to Sir Charles Scotter, the chairman of the company, who replied through the secretary that after enquiry he was satisfied that Gaine had been dealt with in a proper manner with a full regard to the company's liability. The matter was then put before Judge Guy, of the Hants County Court, who replied through the Registrar, that seeing it was a case under the Workmen's Compensation Act, likely to come before him officially, he could not express any opinion upon it. But although Gaine has a few pounds available, he is naturally slow to embark upon litigation; unfortunately, he does not belong to the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

We cannot help thinking that Sir Charles Scotter has given inadequate attention to the matter. This poor man lost his two legs in the service of the company. Under the Compensation Act the company commenced to pay him, as it was bound to do, 10s. 6d. a week. Why not have left him alone with the money, and such additional earnings as his own industry, and the kindness of his friends, made possible?

SHALL WE TAX CATS?

A STRONG INDICTMENT OF PUSSY.

A Leicester reader, who describes himself as "A Lover of Flowers and Nature," but who evidently does not include the feline species in the latter category, writes:—

Re your letter in current issue of John Bull, addressed to The Magistrates, Roose Sessions, Haverfordwest, as an old reader of your paper, may I ask you to take an entirely different view of this question? Imagine yourself, please, as a gentleman with a *nice back garden* to his house (a born Cockney gentleman, if you will, of whom 'tis said that even the sight of a blade of grass will awaken within him the most delightful feelings), and the district around you is literally teeming with cats!!! Of course, out of respect for your good self, pussy will not show herself generally during the day (of course, you yourself do not keep a cat, out of respect, nay, out of love, for your little garden), but almost every morning you come down to see how many more blossoms are opening, only to find that somebody's cat has again been at work among your flowers; some are torn out of the ground, others have blossoms scratched off, etc., etc., etc., despite all your efforts in the raising of palings, wire network, etc., to keep them out. Personally, this is my experience. I have enquired of our local Nuisance Office (under the control of the Leicester Police) as to what can be done to prevent this, only to be told that nothing can be done except *kill the cats*. Of course, as the officer to whom I applied pointed out, the owner of pussy could then sue pussy's murderer for slaughter of his dearly beloved moggy, and the murderer could in turn sue the owner for letting pussy be there to get killed. Kindly seriously consider this matter, and let me know if you do not agree with me that *cats should be taxed*.

A WORD FOR THE MISSIONARY.

A REPLY TO MR. ORMEROD'S RECENT ARTICLE.

We always like to give both sides of a question, and, therefore, have pleasure in publishing the following letter from Mr. J. C. Forth, of Leicester. We would remark, however, that Mr. Ormerod's articles, under the heading of "Public Nuisances," are obviously written in an ironical vein, and must not be taken literally. And, whilst appreciating the sincerity of Mr. Forth's reply, we would also venture to refer *him* to the published accounts of the big missionary societies, where he will find much justification for the charge that an enormous percentage of the funds is swallowed up in salaries, commissions, etc.

Your known love of reality and fair play encourages me to lay before you a few lines *re* the article on "Public Nuisances" in your last issue. (1) Is it fair to describe missions as "against" the heathen; to grudge missions to "dirty niggers" (!); and to speak of the money they cost as "wasted annually on this hobby;" when largely through the efforts of missionaries suttee and hook-swinging have been abolished in India; slavery driven from Jamaica; cannibalism, infanticide, the starvation of the aged and diabolical cruelties swept from many of the islands of the Pacific; negroes on the African Coast turned from savages into men; and a civilised state established in Uganda? Is it not pitiful, in view of the multiplied testimonials of impartial men, that Mr. Ormerod should only "suppose for a moment" that missions had done good? (2) Will not those best able to judge resent an article which would condemn and ridicule the efforts of such men as Livingstone, Moffat, Carey, Damien, Hudson Taylor, Egerton Young, and thousands of others as noble, if not as prominent as they? (3) Should not the writer have examined the audited and open accounts of societies before he raises the question as to what "evaporates in printing, salaries," etc., and what "really reaches the nigger man"? (4) Does not any recognition of the Christian religion as being true involve an acceptance of Christ's authority to make it known? (5) Seeing that nearly half the Christian Church in England is federated into a "Free Church Council," is it fair to say that "each big or little Bethel knows itself to be inspired from on high, and all the rest of the world to be grovelling in ignorance"? (6) Is it not the very people who are supporting missions abroad who are most actively engaged, not "against," but on behalf of, the poor at home? It is simply lamentable that Mr. Ormerod should have written as he has, while evidently ignorant of the character of the work he deals with. A little knowledge of the subject would have led him to spare "Dissenters" the sting with which they are dismissed.

ALL THROUGH THE BOOM!

When the price of bread increased
I was not troubled in the least;
For bread, you see (I have no wife),
Is not for me the staff of life.

When sugar also took a rise
I felt no anger nor surprise;
Because, you know, I never eat
Anything the slightest sweet.

When—after sugar—up went tea,
I still looked on complacently;
I smiled to see the people's rage,
For coffee is *my* beverage.

When bacon took an upward turn
I did not feel the least concern;
For pork of every sort and kind
Is most abhorrent, to *my* mind.

Nor did an increased Income Tax
Cause my good humour to relax;
The reason why? My little hoard
Is earning dividends abroad.

But now the upward tendency
Of prices has come home to me;
I'm fairly bunkered and cast down—
Golf-balls are up to half-a-crown!

Retlaw.

"John Bull" Half-Crown Shares.

LISTS CLOSE MONDAY.

See Page 615.

ECONOMICAL AND EFFECTIVE FURNISHING.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

If at this time you intend replacing old articles of furniture or entirely re-furnishing flat, house or mansion, it is surely worth while to choose articles of furniture that, whilst being of the highest quality, are yet of best value, and therefore moderate in price.

So that you may really appreciate what good furniture really is, and may examine at your leisure the best that London can produce, Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander extend to every reader of JOHN BULL

A CORDIAL INVITATION

to call and inspect their remarkable stock at Tottenham Court Road, W.C.

No matter what may be your requirements—from the necessary articles of the culinary department to a hundred-guinea drawing-room suite—you will find your wishes expressed in sound, serviceable, artistic furniture. Every article is marked at cash figures, and those wishing to take advantage of Wolfe and Hollander's special system of deferred payments CHOOSE THEIR ARTICLES AT CASH PRICES, MERELY ADDING FIVE PER CENT. FOR THE ADVANTAGES OF EXTENDED PAYMENTS.

WOLFE AND HOLLANDER'S extended payment system is the most simple and most equitable yet produced. You simply add 5 per cent. to cash prices and no more.

Thus £100 worth of furniture costs but £105, £50 but £52 10s., and £20 but £21, and your payments are extended over a period to suit your requirements.

The Directors (who may be seen personally) are always pleased to discuss the subject of furnishing, and welcome visitors from town or country. It is not necessary to make an appointment—simply call.

Whether you intend to purchase none or not, you should make a special effort to visit the Wolfe and Hollander Showrooms at this springtide. Not only will you see furniture at prices that will be a revelation to you, or what furniture value should be, but you will also gain many new ideas to help you to furnish your home in really pleasing manner.

In addition to the magnificent Showrooms of up-to-date furniture, there are Specimen Rooms fully furnished in modern style.

If you cannot call, but would like to know about the WOLFE AND HOLLANDER system of business and their goods, will you please send your name and address, when a really interesting book will be sent you post free.

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR APPLICATION TO . . .

WOLFE & HOLLANDER, LTD.,

252 to 256, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, W.C.

Telegrams: "WOLFHOL," LONDON. **Telephones: 1850 Gerrard, 14299 Central.**

BIRMINGHAM OFFICE, 22, WORCESTER STREET.

SALVATION ARMY BREAKING UP.

WHOLESALE STAMPEDE OF OFFICERS—SCRAMBLE FOR THE "GENERAL'S" BOOTS.

In our issue of April 16th, we ventured to assert that all was not well with the Salvation Army. And the ugly, and suggestive facts here set forth will, we hope, compel the financial supporters of the movement to at last insist upon categorical answers to our questions, or the formation of a committee of long-service local officers who shall demand the publication of the truth in the interests of the organisation itself, or, what would apparently be of more value to the Army, the resignation of the officers mainly responsible for the deplorable happenings within the body, Mr. Bramwell Booth and Commissioner William Eadie—the first of whom directs the general affairs of the Army, and the latter the administration of the United Kingdom.

Financial Bleeders!

The general policy of William Eadie and his staff is to centralise everything. A local society has, in their judgment, no right to have any powers at all but such as are graciously conferred on them. Does any man seriously think that the Army is likely to endure this sort of thing for long? The general income of the Highgate corps, for instance, amounts to £500 per annum. Out of this the poor people have to pay a heavy rent to a Citadel Company, managed by Bramwell Booth's officers, 10 per cent. on all its income for the benefit of a divisional officer, who is invariably despised by his comrades, not on personal grounds, but solely because he is the representative of a board at the top on which they have no voice. The Highgate corps is also compelled to allot 50 per cent. of its income from harvest festivals, and collect £400 per annum toward the great Self-Denial Fund, from which they do not derive a single benefit, and support in the course of the twelve months all sorts of petty appeals in aid of the D.O., branches of the social work, etc., and endure the periodical invasions of their ground by headquarters' begging officials.

Bandmaster Blowers Told to Go to the Bad Place!

The fact is that the unpardonable sin in the Salvation Army is to have an opinion of your own contrary to its rules and regulations and the *War Cry*, and *anathema maranatha* is poured out on the man or woman who dares to express an independent opinion. Take the case of poor old Blowers, of Regent Hall, Oxford Street, London, a pious, faithful soldier and music master of that corps for thirty years. Twelve years ago he objected to the display of trade goods in the porch of that hall, holding that it was an outrage to the house of God. He was politely told by his then superior officer to mind his own business or go to a certain bad place. A man of fine feeling and discernment, he saw with sorrow the apostasy of the movement from the ideals of the late Mrs. General Booth, but he endured the shame of it for the sake of the good that the Army did as a whole. When cinematograph shows of a questionable nature were introduced on Saturday nights, with the full approval of Headquarters, he felt that the danger to the Army had at length arisen, and he protested, but again he was scoffed at. The worldliness of its music next roused his religious soul, and, after a vain attempt to bring Headquarters to reason, he quietly resigned as a protest, and the London Salvation Army lost the finest Salvationist in it; but what said the *War Cry*? That Blowers had gone to live, for family reasons, at Wandsworth! Not a word that he had ceased to be a Salvationist for the reasons stated, not a suggestion of appreciation for the thousands of miles he had tramped the streets with his cornet, and the hundreds of pounds he had contributed to the support of the Regent Hall corps; not a word!

Idolised Colonel Frozen Out.

Uneasy rumours are afloat at Queen Victoria Street about more Commissioners leaving the Army. Colonels are throwing up their commissions at the rate of one per week. John Bull has already reported the loss of Colonel and Mrs. Lindsay, about which the *War Cry* said not a word; Colonel and Mrs. Wright have followed, and officers, when they learn of it for the first time in these columns, will not be surprised at anything happening. For who is Colonel Wright? If anyone had suggested twelve months ago that this brilliant man and his beautiful wife would have turned their backs on the Army for conscientious reasons he would have been howled out of court. Colonel Wright was a Salvationist to the tips of his hair. He is the idol of New Zealand Salvationists, having set the work going there, the finest in the world. He opened Queensland. He was the pioneer of the Army in Japan. He was the most successful governor that the General has ever had in command of his social colony at Hadleigh in Essex. He was worshipped by hundreds of officers in the United Kingdom, in which he has held all the chief provincial commands. But he had a most flagrant sin; he was without cant, and he had a colonial way of calling a spade a spade to Mr. Bramwell Booth, and especially to William Eadie, who detested Wright because he was always fighting for the poor and oppressed field officer. So he was marked for the Salvation freezer at headquarters! This is a well-known machine. The officer is first farewelled from his command, and then told to wait till another appointment is fixed, and he is generally kept waiting till his heart begins to bleed. Then he is offered a much lower command. Wright knew that he must either submit and part with his manliness or demand an explanation and be branded as a discontent. He chose to stick to the good old English article, and so he, after 30 years of faithful and clean service, has gone to America to start life afresh as a minister of the Gospel.

Trouble in the States Again.

And the mention of America reminds us that a very perplexing state of affairs obtains there; and again headquarters in London are responsible. So serious is the situation that many of our correspondents declare that the Army will have to cease being recognised as a religious society at all. Even Commissioner Howard, the Army's man for foreign affairs, was compelled to acknowledge in the *War Cry* a few weeks ago that the numercial position of the movement in the States is not very strong! What an admission at the end of 30 years' warfare! And after all the glowing accounts of the General's half-dozen receptions at the White House, and the gladiatorial commands of Commander Booth-Tucker and Miss Eva Booth! Howard must be careful; he may be passed on to the Salvation freezer! The man who is the most successful recruiting agent in the States, Colonel Chandler, has threatened to resign. It seems that, without being consulted in any way, Colonel John Dean, from London, was sent over to New York to take his place as principal of the training college, on the ground that America was not getting enough of hell-fire preaching from Chandler. And perhaps Bramwell Booth is correct. America could do with more brimstone. But the point is that headquarters are trying to apply Eadiesm to the States—that is, manage it from Queen Victoria Street. It is a big bill. When once American Salvation officers seize the situation, ten Commissioner Howards and ten Commissioner Higginses will not hold it.

The Army's Cutting and Sweating Emigration Shop.

The Salvation Army's emigration work, as we have frequently shown, is a source of constant aggravation to field officers. Poor people come to them and say, "Captain, help me to go to Canada." The captain replies, "It is no good. I never can get Headquarters to help people who are not able to pay their own fare."

Give the Commissions to the Emigrants!

We are not complaining that the Dominion Government give the Army £1 per head for each emigrant adult received. That is their own business. But what we say is that the large sums of money paid to the Salvation Army by the Dominion Government, and the double commission they have been in the habit of receiving from the shipping companies, should both go towards the reduction of the fare of the emigrant. We have pointed out time and again the large sums given by the charitable for the purpose of assisting emigration to Canada and elsewhere, and these sums should benefit the emigrants. Instead, the Army insist upon payment by the emigrant of the full fare. All the money goes into the coffers of the Army, and the emigrants do not benefit to the extent of 6d.

After the General's "Boots."

Then, another explanation for the miserable decline in the home commands of the Salvation Army is the angry feeling, almost amounting to a loathing, at the attempts that have been made to capture the leading positions in the Army by Colonels and Commissioners, so as to prepare for certain eventualities. It is an open secret that the root trouble which the General has had with certain members of his family has arisen from their scramble for the first, second and third commands. But the price paid has been spiritual deterioration, the loss of thousands of officers of all ranks, the substitution of puff advertising for solid work, the development of a system for grinding money out of the officers, the growth of centralisation for the preservation of personal power, and the neglect of soul-saving work by the Chief of the Staff. There will be a bigger stampede yet.

GETTING READY FOR ROOSEVELT.

THE BRITISH LION: "Waal, if Teddy's coming, I guess I better do my best to make him feel at home!"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

Smart Recovery in Rubber and Oil Shares from Temporary Relapse.—The Bears Discomfited—Crude Rubber Shortage—Satisfactory Gold Movements.

To my introductory remarks of last week concerning the money market, I have merely to add that the further gold shipments from New York are reinforcing the Bank's reserve, and the income tax collections will now, no doubt, keep the 4 per cent. rate effective. The markets received a shock last week in the shape of a sharp relapse in Rubber and Oil shares, but the assertions hazarded by numerous persons, who were not in the swim, that these "booms" were over for good and aye proved false. In the case of well-selected Rubber shares of the best class the remarkable strength of the crude article lends, of course, active support, fine hard Para now being quoted 12s. 2d., good and fine Middle East Plantation 12s. to 12s. 10d. For forward delivery, Plantation is quoted 12s. for 1910, 11s. for 1911 and 9s. 6d. per lb. for 1912, and not far below these prices sales can be effected, so that the producing companies can secure high values. There is an increase of less than 1,000 tons in the Brazilian and Peruvian receipts at Para this season (July 1st to end of April, 1910) against the previous season, and as the demand for consumption has undoubtedly increased very largely, there is a shortage in the supply which will probably force still higher prices, say in May and June. In these months, however, there will also fall due special settlements of so many new rubber-producing companies and Trusts running into many millions sterling, and in view of the reckless applications by the public for many bad or indifferent companies, many a *mauvais quart d'heure* is in store for the gamblers. Let me once more beseech my readers to be careful in their selection, and not to buy more than they can easily pay for, as fluctuations like the recent ones, and indeed, much sharper declines, will occasionally have to be faced. I gave last week a table of representative shares, from which a selection could still be made, some being rather cheaper, such as Ledbury fully paid at 5¾, 7s. 6d. paid 3½ premium, Sapong at 2. Among the Venture Corporation issues, Jequié stand at 15s. 6d., Nyassa £1 shares 5s. paid at ¾ premium, Madagascar Ordinary at 1⅛, the latter being very good value at the price.

"The Times of Ceylon" on Molesworth.

It may be interesting to holders of shares in Molesworth Brothers Rubber Estates that the *Weekly Times* of Ceylon of March 30th, just received by mail, contains some information on the Company. In the first instance, my contemporary reports on the Company's latest cigars, which it describes as mild, fragrant and pleasing. The whole of the tobacco used was grown on the Company's property at Trincomalie, and made by the Company's own cigar makers, and the *Times of Ceylon* thinks that it will not be long before a satisfactory market is found for them. Again, my contemporary states that Sir Thomas Lipton's party arrived there in a motor car at 1.30, and lunched at the Resthouse. Sir Thomas motored round the town, and my contemporary learns that it is possible that he may open a rubber estate, by the bank of the Ganga, where the Molesworth Company are at present planting. The shares are being dealt in at 4s., and should improve after the special settlement, if not before.

A Cheap Rubber Share.

Those who are looking out for a cheap rubber gamble might do worse than invest in the Anglo-Belgian (Sierra Leone) Rubber Corporation, Limited, the shares of which stand at a considerable discount, viz., at 2s. 9d. per 5s. share, fully paid. The Company owns some 140 square miles of rubber and mineral land, sixty square miles of which are rubber producing. It is situate on the Ankobra and Bonsa Rivers of West Africa, about fifteen miles from the Tarkwa railway station. According to a recent report made by Mr. R. G. Rogerson, C. and M.E., F.R.G.S., he estimates very conservatively only eight trees to the acre, yielding, say, only 1 lb. of rubber each per annum. This would mean a total production of 160,000 lbs. of rubber from, say, only 20,000 acres of this vast territory, which should, according to Mr. Rogerson, yield at least a profit of 2s. 6d. per lb., or £20,000 per annum, this being on the low basis of 4s. per lb. It is intended to clear and plant 3,200 acres with Para rubber, and this is now going on. The first production from the planted area in 1915 is estimated to yield 65,000 lbs., and in the next season a similar area is to be planted, and so on, until the 3,200 acres are planted with a total of 416,000 trees. As the capital of the Company is £300,000 in 5s. shares, the capitalisation at the present price is distinctly moderate in proportion to the vast extent of the properties and there is a considerable margin for a rise.

Relapse in Oil Shares Followed by a Recovery.—The Maikop Oilfield—Expert's Evidence.

The Rubber share department being the leader of the market, the Oil share section promptly followed the former's example in having a relapse of its own. As there had been a good deal of irresponsible gambling, and some of the doubtful or resuscitated Companies were being rigged at the same time, the shake-out will have served a useful purpose. The announcement by the Burmah Oil Company of a dividend of 1s. 6d. per share and 3s. bonus, making, with the interim dividend, 30 per cent. for the year, put up the price of these shares 13-16 to 6½ and helped the general recovery. But the Maikop oilfield has undoubtedly the greatest potentialities. Dr. Paul Dvorkovitz, the well-known petroleum expert, confirms this view, stating that this field will revolutionise the petroleum industry in Europe. One of the points he makes is that the oil from Baku has got to be pumped to the export port of Batoum, a distance of nearly 600 miles, against 50 miles of the Maikop. Another is that the supply from Baku is limited to illuminating oil. Then, again, the regularity of the deposit, the maintenance of a high grade of oil, and the regular working are other advantages. Amongst the Maikop companies which can be recommended are London and Maikop Oil Corporation, £1 shares, 2s. 6d. paid, at 9-16 premium, which company will float half a dozen subsidiaries, one of which is expected to be issued early in May. Again, Maikop Valley £1 shares, 5s. paid at ⅜ premium, are a good purchase, also for special settelement, and Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary (Deferred) 1s. shares at ¼. These stand in the same relation to Black Sea Oilfields Preference, now quoted 13-16 premium for £1 shares, as Anglo-Maikop "B" shares (in which my readers have made large profits), now 2⅜, to the Ordinary £1 shares, 10s. paid, at 1⅜, and are therefore worth a good deal more than present price. There have been marked attempts to depress Standard Oil of Mexico "A" and "B" shares (in which my readers also made large profits from 3s. 3d. upwards) for "A" shares, now 7s. 9d., but they have not been successful, the shares being held by a body of 1,500 shareholders. Trinidad is likely to be prominent in oil production, so that attention should still be given to Petroleum Options shares, now 3s. 6d.—4s. New Zealand Oilfield have been singularly strong throughout the recent setback, and it is not surprising, considering its vast petroliferous area and the backing of the New Zealand Government in the matter of oil production. New Zealand Oilfields, now 6d. to 1s. premium, are one of the best low-priced chances in the oil share market. Anglo-Italian Petroleum, of which I gave particulars last week, should be bought while they can be got at 1-16 or ⅛ premium on the £1 shares and put away for a few months. The capital is moderate and the management in good hands, and substantial profits are likely to be ruling in the near future. The General Oil and Finance Corporation, Ltd., which was floated under the auspices of the London Venture Corporation, has been very largely oversubscribed.

Bright Prospects for Kaffirs, Despite Some Realising—Potentialities of Rhodesians.

Kaffir shares have suffered from realisations by speculators in Rubber shares, but the market is rallying again, and Kaffirs will always reassert themselves, especially now that ample native labour is available. One of the most attractive shares is Modder Leases (Messrs. Barnato's Government Lease flotation), to which I drew attention the other day, and which have reacted to 1 11-16, as a price even of 2 works out to only £1,500 per claim, as compared with £4,000 to £5,000 for similarly situated claims. Harmony Props. has been a quiet market, but maintained themselves at 9s 9d.-10s., and now that the Selati Railway extension will soon be completed things should hum soon on the Company's numerous farms. Daggafontein are firming up on a cable that shaft sinking has been started. The view is gaining ground that Rhodesians will, in the near future, lead the improvement in mines. Professional attacks on new introductions like Gold Schists of Rhodesia and the Shamva Trust Companies after all go for nothing, as the parent groups have three millions of money at their backs. I understand that influential French houses are taking up large blocks of shares in these Companies. The arrival of Messrs. H. A. Piper and Stanley Christopherson will bring fresh opinions on the Shamva Mines, and speculators in Rubber shares might seriously consider the wisdom of transferring some of their capital to Rhodesians. Under

different surroundings, the Gwanda gold rush, owing to the discovery of rich reef in that district, would have caused a miniature boom. The strike extended from Gwanda Township west, while pegging has taken place over twelve miles. One of the firmest spots is Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia at 11s. 3d., with its important interests in these and other parts. Their latest acquisition is two blocks in the centre of Champion Block, which consolidates the reef interest for working on a large scale. Wankie Collieries have advanced to 14s., in view of their favourable prospects. By the way, Murchison Associated shareholders have reason to rejoice over recent developments in the old portion of the mine, and the discovery of a new lode, value 3 ozs. of gold per ton. In buying Murchison Associated at 2s. to 2s. 3d., one is backing the concern at the price of an "outsider," whereas it may within a few months take an easy first place.

AFRICAN FREEHOLD COAL LANDS, LIMITED.

Latest advices from the properties of this Company situated at Middelburg are of considerable interest. By June next, the directors are expected to start with the machinery, now shipped, at the rate of 500 tons per day on the "Vaalbank" property, and by duplicating the plant to raise the output early next year to 1,000 tons a day. The profit on an output of 1,000 tons per day is estimated to be at least 1s. 6d. per ton, or over £30,000 a year, to be increased by bye-products, which represents a dividend of 20 per cent. on the ordinary shares after making ample provision for depreciation. The oil shale overlying the coal measures at "Elandsfontein" and "Wildfontein" would be another source of income and the railway runs through the last named and near "Elandsfontein." The coal is described as of such excellent quality that the whole output could be readily disposed of either for local or export trade, and a contract has been entered into under which a Liverpool syndicate has the right to call for half the output of the Colliery for India. The directors state that, after the payment of the plant is completed, their cash resources will be from £10,000 to £15,000. It is understood that the Middelburg Steam Coal and Coke Company have recently acquired an option on an oil shale property located in the same district as the above properties, the shale from which, on being tested by Professor Boverton Redwood, yielded 40 gallons of crude oil to the ton. It is evident, therefore, that there are great potentialities connected with the properties of this Company, the 5s. Ordinary shares of which seems to be distinctly underpriced at 5s.

RHODESIA SOUTH, LTD.

In further discussion of the position of Rhodesia South, Ltd., which are changing hands at 10s. 6d., I may mention that the properties (40 mining claims in four blocks of ten claims each) are situated about eight miles north-east of Bembesi railway station and about 35 miles north of Bulawayo. They have been reported upon by Mr. T. J. Britten, M.I.M.E., A.M.I.C.E., and Mr. J. A. Fraser, late claim inspector of the Chartered Company. These reports indicate that the formation in which the lode is encased can be traced through the entire length of the property—viz., 3,000 feet, and outcrops of the lode itself can be found over the greater portion of the same length. Over 1,300 feet of driving and sinking has been done on this property to prove width and value of the reef. The reef has some of the characteristics of a contact lode. This augurs well for permanency in depth. Sufficient work has been done on the property to prove the existence of a lode which is payable for a length of fully 800 feet with an average width of 4 feet. Assays of 11 samples taken by Mr. T. J. Britten gave an average of 18.8 dwts. per ton. Native labour and fuel are plentiful in the district. It is the intention of the Company to adopt a policy of vigorous development by sinking to a depth and opening up the mine on an extensive scale.

NEW GOLD PROPS. OF WEST AFRICA.

The West African Market continues dormant, with the exception of the shares of those companies which have an interest in the Kwahu district. Of these New Gold Props. (New Gold Proprietary Mines, Ltd.) have been a special feature, being now quoted at 6s. 6d. When we first drew attention to these shares, the price was about 4s. 6d., but even at their present quotation they would appear considerably under-valued compared with the shares of other companies in the same district, as the issued capital at the present quotation of the shares only amounts to £70,000, more especially as a considerable amount of development work has been done in the property, and two reefs of high value have been located.

WILD RUBBER.

It is acknowledged that nowhere in the world can "hard Para rubber" be grown other than in the Amazon district. A well-managed company operating in this neighbourhood should do well, and therefore the Amazon Rubber and Estates Company's prospectus, which will be issued this week, should be well received.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN FRUIT FARMING.

The following cable has been received by the British Columbia Development Association from their Walhachin Estate manager:—

Have started to irrigate north side (of Thompson Valley). The system is almost perfect.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are only made in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, for transacting business, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

DIAMONTINO RUBBER.—W. J. D.—This is fair value. (2) The quotation for the 2s. shares, 1s. 6d. paid, is 3s. to 4s. premium. (3) A special settlement will, no doubt, take another month or so. (4) Impossible to tell. When you have a good profit sell for special settlement.

PLYMOUTH SKATING RINK.—W. S. R.—It is impossible to obtain a list of shareholders for this rink, unless it is copied specially at Somerset House, and I am unable to oblige you in that.

PREMIUM AND LOTTERIES.—R. W. G. (Middlesbrough).—What is the use of your getting into a mess, and then writing to me afterwards? If you had done so first, I would have sent you the name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London who would have treated you well. I am afraid you will not be able to recover the balance. J. F. G.—I send you the address of a foreign banker in London who deals specially in Premium Bonds, but Continental lotteries are illegal here, and he would not deal in these, nor can I assist you in any way.

CONSOLIDATED RUBBER.—W. J. H.—Take a fair profit. Your request for shares in JOHN BULL has been forwarded to the Company.

BOOTS CHEMISTS PREFS.—F. A. F. (Twickenham).—This seems to be a well-conducted and profitable business, and there is no reason why you should not invest.

KWALOE RUBBER ESTATES.—HUDD.—My opinion of Kwaloe Rubber Estates is not favourable, but they may rally. At present the price is ¼ discount to par.

SMALL TRANSACTIONS.—J. T. H. (Sunderland).—It is quite useless to speculate with £2. Unless you can easily spare £20 you should not attempt Stock Exchange business.

INVESTMENT OF £100.—COLLEGE.—What you require has been forwarded to you. I think if you were to put half the money in Oils and the other half in South Africans you might do well, and your broker can advise you. Options are no more any use.

OIL AND MINING SHARES.—ROSA.—(1) London stockbrokers do not care to do business for less than £20 in any one stock. They will require cash for such small transactions. (2) Yes. (3) This would be too speculative for you. (4) A fair speculation. SYNDICATE.—(1) Take your profit on Lobitos on the next opportunity. (2) Highly speculative. (3) Champion Reefs are a fair Indian holding. (4) Balaghats are not in a very good position, to judge from the Directors' report. (5) It should be worth while holding Workington Irons now.

£500 FOR SOUTH AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—RHONDDA.—You will find what you require amongst Argentine Railways, such as Buenos Ayres Great Southern, Central Argentine, and especially Buenos Ayres and Pacific. (2) I forward what you require. (3) There will be no difficulty in dividing the investment in three or four different stocks.

OPTIONS.—P. S. B. (Manchester).—You will find that option dealing has practically been killed by the fact that the outside brokers have mostly failed over it, and not carried out their undertakings. I send you name of a stockbroker, member of the London Stock Exchange, as requested. Such books are published by Messrs. Effingham Wilson, of 1, Royal Exchange Buildings, E.C., to whom you had better send for a catalogue. The leading financial daily papers in London are the *Financial News* and the *Financial Times*, and a weekly financial paper is the *Citizen*.

VARIOUS INVESTMENTS.—A. H. B.—(1) I do not advise an investment. (2) Only for small amounts. (3) I prefer investment in sound securities, in which you can get up to 4 per cent. per annum, and which have the great advantage of being more readily realisable. (4) Nowadays brokers do not care to be troubled with orders of less value than £25; I send you the address of a suitable firm. F. C.—(1) Only for very small amounts. (2) The matter certainly looks fishy, but I do not see how I can help you. A. E. H.—It is difficult to advise with regard to such a small investment, but if you have a fancy for Premium Bonds, do not buy them through any of the foreign firms, but deal only through a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who will not charge excessive prices. The New Guinea Corporation in question is highly speculative. You are quite right with regard to the standing of the firms in question. SIGMA.—I do not recommend dealing with any of the firms in question, but you will understand that brokers do not care to deal for less than £20, and that for cash. The three shares mentioned are all promising, especially Harmony Props. ALEXANDRIA.—Consult my articles with regard to rubber and oil shares. Liptons are worth keeping, but keep an eye on Calico Printers. PLASTICUS.—(1) Amalgamated Props. and Prestea Mines would be as good as any. (2) A good investment. (3) Consult my articles with regard to rubber and oil shares. (4) A doubtful outside firm; have nothing to do with them. MILETUS.—No brokers will now accept commissions for less than £20, and then only for cash. The Waterworks Debentures are a fair holding of the kind. As regards rubber and oils, see my articles. Prestea Mines are a good purchase in the West African market. READER.—Neither of the stocks mentioned are in the first rank of investments, but all are fair holdings, except perhaps the jewellers' shares. The 3 per cent. or 3½ per cent. issues of New South Wales and Western Australia, and the 4 per cent. Bonds of Japan. ARGYLE.—As a general rule take any profits which you may have on Nos. 1 to 6. There is no option but to hold No. 2 after the heavy fall. No. 20 could be held safely. The rest are not good permanent holdings, except No. 1. BOGUS.—I am afraid that both Nos. 1 and 2 are, as you fear, "bad eggs." As regards No. 3, you must please yourself in the matter, but some low-priced Kaffirs are now offering better opportunities.

Balkis Land Shares.—N. A. (Glasgow).—You cannot call these an investment. It is a speculation in Land shares, which may or may not come right.

Stockbroker and Foreign Banker.—Up Country.—(1) The name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers for dealing in Premium Bonds, and the address of a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange, who will deal in rubber shares, have been forwarded to you as requested. There are no special rubber brokers.

King Valley Mining.—E. H.—No market and no information regarding these shares. You must be prepared to give commissions for not less than £20, and for cash.

Farrow's Bank.—C. J. B. (Leeds).—Perfectly sound.

Eight Rubbers.—Xenophon.—Keep No. 4, and perhaps No. 6. The others should be realised as a favourable opportunity offers.

Kaffirs.—Y. Y. Y.—Yes, sell the shares in question, and go into Randfontein South, which is quite a different concern. Better hold Oceana Developments now.

Brewery Shares.—Brewery.—I almost think it would be advisable to cut your loss, and go into something else. Kaffirs, for instance, look very attractive, such as Randfontein Centrals or Souths.

Japs., Rails.—Japanese 4½ per cent. Bonds at about par are a good second-class investment. Hold Great Easterns. All Home Rails are now on the upgrade, and their prospects are encouraging.

Trunk Pacific Bonds.—Associate.—Yes, Grand Trunk Pacific 4 per cent. Bonds, Prairie Branch, would be suitable for the investment of your £100.

£725 for Investment.—M. A. D.—Nos. 6, 7 and 8 are the best on your list, and these are only second-class. You might add Western Australian 3½ per cent. bonds at 97½, Grand Trunk Second Preference at 105, and Central Argentine 7 per cent. Preference at 165.

Industrials, Mines.—Bedeque A.—Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10 are the best on your list. Wanderers (9) are even more than an ordinary mining risk, and Midas Deep (11) are of the same standard. Sell Nos. 3 and 4 when an opportunity offers.

Red Mountain Gold Fields.—G. P.—There is no market for the shares of this concern, which does not even appear in the usual books of reference.

£200 Investment.—Ireland.—Put the money into Home Railway stocks, such as Great Western, North Eastern, Midland Deferred, or Hull and Barnsley.

South Randfontein Deep.—Amos.—These shares will have their chance when the Kaffir market generally braces up again. Meantime, there is no option but to hold.

North Charterland.—G. H. K.—There is a good deal in what you say, but no doubt the Directors have been biding their time, and the present seems to be a good opportunity for carrying out this reconstruction. Of course, you have no option but to pay up the calls.

Suez Canal.—Khedive.—You need have no fear about your holding of bonds, and if the company were expropriated, it would doubtless be bought out on a fair basis.

Hans Crescent Hotel.—F. A. W.—There is no market for the Preference shares of this hotel. The last dividend paid thereon was 2 per cent., for the year 1908-9.

House Stockbroker.—S. W. P.—It is useless to deal in £5 worth of stocks. Stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, moreover, do not care for orders under £20 for each individual stock, and they must be cash transactions. A. S. (Liverpool).—Same reply. (1) Outside brokers. Have nothing to do with their three-monthly accounts. (2) London and Malkop Oil Corporation, Ltd.

Westralians.—Morganwy Villas.—I do not like Cue Consolidated Finance, but you now have a substantial profit on London, Australian and General Exploration, which have advanced sharply in view of their Malkop oil interests. With regard to a firm of stockbrokers, please see reply to "S. W. P."

£25 for Speculation.—E. W.—No. 4 ranks first, then Nos. 1, 2, and 3. See reply to "S. W. P."; but I send what you ask for in your envelope.

Small Specs.—B. S. (Dublin).—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope, but please also consult reply to "S. W. P." above.

Golden Rhodesia.—W. J. B.—This is a "silent" concern, and there is no market for the shares. I send what you require in your envelope.

West Africans.—Stella.—(1) These should not be held too long. (2) The nominal value of Prestea Mines and Massau is 9s. 6d. and 13s. 6d. respectively; I prefer the former. As regards a stockbroker, I send what you require, but also refer you to my replies to "S. W. P." and others.

Oil Shares.—Oil.—Consult my letter with regard to oil shares. I send what you want, but you will not be able to buy less than about £20 worth, and then only for cash. College.—It is an error, but having applied for the shares, take them, and await a favourable opportunity to sell. The quotations are given in shillings for shares standing under a pound, and in figures and fractions, representing pounds, for those quoted at higher levels. W. H. M.—I usually only recommend shares in which there is a free market, and you will find quotations of both those in question, as well as of others which I occasionally mention, in the *Financial News* and the *Financial Times*. The *Financier* is also devoting considerable attention oil shares. As regards suitable oil shares for purchase, consult my article. Rhodesia.—Your stockbroker will advise you what to buy in oil shares, also see my article. W. E. L.—With regard to Nos. 1, 2 and 3, see my article on oil shares, and act accordingly. (4) I cannot undertake to do this.

Insurance, Etc.—J. J. P.—(1) This Insurance concern has not yet paid a dividend, so that it is by no means flourishing. (2) I do not like these shares. You must buy at least £20 worth, and then only for cash.

Edward's Creameries.—Danebury.—I doubt whether you will be able to get rid of these shares. No information is available regarding the concern, and the shares are not quoted.

Rubber Shares.—J. R.—This is a highly speculative undertaking, whose success lies in the lap of the future, while there is very little market for the shares, and probably you would not be able to sell at present if you tried. G. H.—(1) Sell if you can, but you might find this difficult while the market is disorganized. (2) With regard to oil shares, see my letter. J. T. C.—Consult my article with regard to rubber shares. E. D. L.—It is not necessary to send the certificate with your first instructions. C. D.—The only course is to instruct your broker to sell these shares, but I am afraid you will find it a difficult task to get rid of them in the present temper of the market. In that case, you will have no option but to pay the calls and take up the shares.

Engineering Debentures.—This is a prosperous concern, and the Debentures are well secured. What is against them, however, is that they are not quoted, and thus would be difficult to realise.

Three Rubbers.—Edina.—(1) These shares are at present under the influence of the coming special settlement. (2) The last dividend paid was 10 per cent., in September, 1909. (3) I do not like these shares. X. Y. Z.—Good profits, such as you have on Nos. 1 and 2, are always worth taking. (3) There is no definite quotation for East Javas at present.

Rhodesians, Etc.—Hopeful.—Harmony Props. and British North Borneos are the best of your holding, but the Rhodesians should also be kept for an improvement along with the rest of this market. Better sell No. 1 when an opportunity offers, also the Insurance shares, No. 2.

£500 for Investment.—Eboe.—A Government annuity would be absolutely safe, and preferable under the circumstances, although the other investments mentioned are also good enough for the purpose.

Copper Shares.—Butter.—These shares have now dropped out of market dealings, but they might receive attention again when the copper position in America has righted itself. Meanwhile, there is no quotation for the shares, and no option but to hold the same.

American Rails.—Anxious.—If you speculate in American Rails, especially in the present condition of that market, you will be taking big risks, and, in any case, deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. In my opinion, Kaffirs and Rhodesians now offer the best chances—Harmonys and Amalgamated Props. for instance.

Liberian Rubber.—A. H. T.—There is no reliable quotation for these shares, which you would find very difficult to sell. As regards the difficulty of getting information, your only course is to unite with other shareholders in a demand for the same.

Rubbers, Oils, Etc.—Trio.—At the present juncture it is more than ever advisable to deal only in shares in which there is a free market, which is not the case in the three shares mentioned. Consult my articles on rubber and oil shares, and act accordingly. Zero.—Both Harmony Props and London Ventures should be held for a substantial recovery. As regards Rubber and Oil shares, I must refer you to my articles in the present issue. G. S. F.—Consult my articles with regard to rubber and oil shares, I send you what you require, but you must understand that nowadays brokers do not care to undertake commissions for less than about £25. Doubtful.—I can only refer you to my articles concerning the most promising rubber and oil shares. It would certainly be advisable to put the money into two concerns, instead of one. J. C. (Forest Gate).—(1) Get rid of all these shares, for which there is indeed very little market, at your first opportunity. (2) It would be better to go to a member of the Stock Exchange. Mrs. A. M.—If you are not already a holder, leave the first-mentioned shares alone. Nor do I care for either of the three rubber shares mentioned; you would do better to consult my articles on this subject. F. E. B.—Take profits on the four shares mentioned, if you have them, and reinvest in those specially mentioned in my articles. Ennismore.—(1) The commission depends upon the price of the shares. (2) London stockbrokers do not care to deal for less than £20 in each individual stock. (3) Effingham Wilson and Co., of 1, Royal Exchange Buildings, E.C., publish such books. Jay.—(1) A very dubious outside firm; have nothing whatever to do with them. (2) As regards oil shares, consult my article in this issue. Argyle.—(1) If you have a profit, take it. (2) Consult my articles with regard to oil shares. (3) Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange, E.C., publish such books. M.D.—This is an obscure concern, in which there is very little market, and you may find some difficulty in realising the shares. As regards rubber and oil shares generally, consult my articles.

Murchison Associated.—A. A. C.—A fair purchase. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope, but you cannot buy less than £20, and must pay cash.

J. C. and J. Field.—*B. C. H.*—The company is not doing well. Do not buy any more, but rather sell what you have got

British Mexican Development.—Mexicano.—This company was formed in April, 1908, for the treatment of sulphide ores, under two patent processes, and works were erected near Mexico City. No further information is available, and you should apply to the Secretary, Mr. G. H. Sanders, 30, Moorgate Street, E.C.

Outside Brokers.—A. F. E.—Nothing more or less than a "bucket shop"; have nothing to do with it. P. O. P. (Aston).—All these concerns are outsiders of a more or less doubtful type, and you should not entrust them with any money. A. McL. C.—The United Stock and Share Corporation, of 3, Budge Row, Cannon Street, are outside brokers, and I do not advise your trying their special stock Combine system. L. G. W.—This experience should be a lesson to you not to deal with outside brokers of this type. I am doubtful whether you will ever recover anything from them, and probably if you took them into Court they would plead the Gaming Act. They have you entirely at their mercy. F. H. C.—You are only a working man, and can ill afford to lose. Therefore, do not speculate with outside brokers.

French Firms and Premium Bonds.—Don.—You should have nothing to do with the firm in question, as their prices are far above market quotations. I send you the name of a reliable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of Premium Bonds, and who will treat you fairly. You must go slowly with rubber shares now, in view of possible reactions, and I confirm remarks in my article. Summerberry.—Same reply as regards Premium Bonds, and these combinations contain some very bad bonds. Long Sutton.—Same reply.

Ceylon Rubber Shares.—H. B. K. S.—You seem to have got in rather high for these shares, which are, however, fair class. Take your profit as soon as you can get it. The brokers are respectable. Turn-Up.—It is a pity you lost your market in these Ceylon Rubber shares. You had a good profit. It is impossible to say how they will go now, in view of the repeated reactions.

Silvertown Mines.—U. K. R. (Derby.)—(1) There is no market for these shares in London.

House Broker.—G. A. S.—(1) Not knowing you, they would expect cash with the order, but they would not do business in any individual stock for less than £20. (2) Yes.

Vallambrosa.—Marcus.—(1) I cannot give you any information about Manchester stockbrokers. (2) Outside brokers in London. Have nothing to do with them. (3) Vallambrosa are at a high price, and you must be very careful now, as reactions are more frequent. I do not wish to be responsible for such advice. (4) Doubtful.

Australian Mine.—C. H. H.—I do not advise purchase of this mining share. You can do far better in low-priced Kaffirs and Rhodesians—for instance, Harmony Props. and Amalgamated Props.

Val D'Or Rubber Shares.—Lynn.—You bought these rubber shares far too high. I have never recommended them, and you had better realise on a recovery.

Travancore Rubber and Other Shares.—Darlaston.—(1) Travancore Rubber report is just issued, but dealings are chiefly in Edinburgh; the market view is favourable. Oakenden River Rubber (2) not dealt in here. (3) You must consult a dealer in Premium Bonds. I have sent you the name of a dealer in them in London who makes a speciality of them. (4) I have nothing against the rubber shares mentioned by you, except British Honduras, which I do not like. Of course, you must run the risk of the market reacting further. (5) Fortnightly.

American Stocks.—Crippleditch.—I do not mention purchases of the Mackay Companies. With regard to American Rails, London stockbrokers would not deal in very small lots.

American Mine.—C. B. H.—You had much better leave the Homestake Mining Company of Missouri alone, and invest in something nearer home.

Four Per Cent. Investment.—Exonian.—You might sell, and reinvest in Great Central Railway 3½ per cent. Preference stock, at 81, yielding about 4 per cent. per annum.

Kaffirs, Industrials.—Waitless.—You would be very ill-advised to part with any of your Kaffir holdings now. As soon as the shake-out in the market has gone far enough, a decided turn for the better is likely. The two shares, Nos. 8 and 11, should, however, be sold on any favourable opportunity.

South Western Banks.—S. W.—London and South Western Banks are a good holding among bank shares, and the possibility of a call being made is extremely unlikely. Moreover, you can insure against the same at Lloyds, if you wished.

Malkop B.—W. S. M.—This price was ruling on that day, although it was rather high. No option now but to hold for a recovery.

Three Investments.—Cheshire.—(1) Consols are quite safe, but you can get a better yield, with equal safety, in Colonial Government bonds, such as Western Australian 3½ per cent. bonds at 98. (2 and 3) Both are fair Industrial holdings, but not absolutely safe.

Complaint of Outside Broker.—Wootton.—I cannot obviously give you my opinion unless I have also a copy of the broker's account before me to compare with your summary. It is useless to rush into litigation before you are fully aware of the position.

China Clay and Law Car.—Golf.—(1) A fair industrial investment, but no catch. (2) There is no demand just yet. (3) Middle class (4) No option but to hold. The other shares are a fair investment.

Various Rubber and Oil Shares.—X. Y. Z.—Upon the whole, your investments, Nos. 1—7, are well selected, although you got in too high into some. Hold and sell when you have a good profit.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

WEST AFRICAN POSSIBILITIES.

An Important Impending Flotation: The Aywara Rubber and Cotton Estates.

The British investor is at last awakening to the possibilities of West Africa as a field for the production of rubber. The wide scope presented for the remunerative employment of capital in this direction has not been overlooked by foreign capitalists, who have placed large sums into the industry, and West Africa is to-day the world's second largest rubber producer, a fact not generally understood or appreciated here. Furthermore, Funtumia Elastica—the indigenous tree, which is found throughout the country in great profusion, is next to Para (Hevea Braziliensis), the most valuable of rubber trees. In point of fact, a sample exhibited at the Allied Rubber Trades Exhibition last September was valued at 2d. per pound higher than Para from the Amazon. As a cotton-producing country West Africa is also likely to loom largely in the public eye. We have not forgotten the "Patten corner," and every effort will now be made to broaden the basis of supply, which is the only cure for the terrible calamity which threatens the cotton trade of Lancashire. The British Cotton Growers' Association has done good work and is doing good work. In every British colony something has been attempted, but the Association's premier effort will be confined to West Africa, the West Indies, East Africa, and Uganda. It is interesting to note that in West Africa the quantity of cotton grown has rapidly risen from 500 bales to 12,000 bales of a value of £120,000. To assist in opening up the African cotton fields with their known possibilities is the aim of many keen-headed financiers to-day, and a brighter and infinitely more prosperous era is in sight. The companies, therefore that combine cotton-growing with the production of other products are assured of a great future. A very important company, having the above programme as its basis, will shortly be introduced to the public under the title of the Aywara Rubber and Cotton Estates, with a capital of £120,000 in 480,000 shares of 5s. each, of which 400,000 will be offered to the public and 80,000 kept in reserve. The properties are situate on the Winni River, which is one of the principal tributaries of the Ankobra. The Aywara Estate is situate at the junction of the Aywara and Winni Rivers, and has an estimated area of five square miles, or 3,200 acres. The Kutay Estate is about a mile to the north of the Aywara Estate, extending about four miles northward along the eastern bank of the Winni River and six miles in an easterly direction, the area being estimated at 24 square miles, or 15,360 acres. The extent of the estates is 19,000 acres, and being close together they can be conveniently worked under one management. Those who know West Africa are aware that the Winni is one of the principal timber branches of the Ankobra, and is fit for floating logs for seven or eight months of the year, and as the estates contain 50,000 fully-grown mahogany trees the income from this source will be substantial. Mr. W. F. Hutchinson, late Vice-President of the Commission on Economic Agriculture, Gold Coast, reporting under date April 2nd last on the properties states:

On the 19,000 acres of the estate I estimate that there are 60,000 to 70,000 fully grown mature rubber trees (Funtumia Elastica) ready for immediate tapping, which should yield 2 lbs. to 2½ lbs. of rubber per annum for a number of years. In addition to these there are the rubber vines, of which the Landolphia Owariensis is the best.

From numerous experiments which I have made, both when acting as Vice-President of the Commission on Economic Agriculture and since, I am convinced that the latex of the indigenous rubber-tree of West Africa is capable of making a rubber equal to that obtained from the latex of the Hevea Brasiliensis, if it is treated with the same skill, care, and attention to cleanliness as is exercised by the Brazilian collector. The rubber now imported from the Gold Coast is of an inferior quality only because the native collector has hitherto been averse to adopting proper methods, but the Government is steadily spreading instruction in this matter among the natives. Specimens of rubber prepared by me or under my instructions or superintendence have been classed by experts here as equal to Para. Last year I had a large quantity of the Landolphia Vine sent to me here for the purpose of experiment. These I had ground, and the caoutchouc completely extracted, obtaining from 10 per cent. to 16 per cent. of the weight of the vines in pure, hard, dry rubber, which was valued at 3s. 6d. to 4s. per lb. when the price of rubber was about half what it is now, so that the samples would now be worth 7s. to 8s. With machines for pressing and completely extracting the juice from the vines, I consider you should be able to obtain 8 per cent. of the weight of the vines in rubber. Under skilled superintendence, care being taken to keep the latex free from dirt and fermentation while being treated, and to prepare it in small pieces or thin cakes, so that it can be thoroughly dried, the resultant rubber ought to be as good as my samples and be worth within 20 per cent. of the value of the best Para.

I estimate that you can obtain 160 lbs. per acre of such rubber by proper treatment of the vines only, worth at present values 7s. to 8s. per lb., but for the purposes of this report I shall take the value at 4s. per lb., giving a gross yield of £32 per acre. I estimate the cost of collection, treatment, packing, conveyance to port, shipping, freight, and home charges at a total of 1s. 9d. per lb., which will be £14 per acre, leaving a net return of £18 per acre, without reckoning any rubber you may get from the trees.

The objection is frequently made that the wild rubber is difficult to collect, because the jungle has to be cleared to collect it. But it must be remembered that the rubber vines are the jungle, and that the process of collection and clearing are one and the same. To get the rubber the vines have to be cut. These vines run to enormous lengths, some reaching to 300 or 400 ft., and are festooned from tree to tree, forming the screen which distinguishes the "jungle" of tropical forest from the clear glades of a forest in the Temperate zone. If a rubber plantation is to be formed, the jungle must, of course, be cleared away, but this necessary labour is made a source of profit if the vines, as they are cut, are treated as a source of rubber. I would suggest the clearing and planting each year of 1,000 acres of the estates with rubber trees (preferably, in my opinion, the indigenous species) at the rate of 100 trees per acre, or 100,000 trees per annum. The rubber trees on this part of the estate could be tapped to exhaustion, so as to make room for the planted trees, and in this way could be made to yield 8 lbs. to 10 lbs. each. This would give about 25,000 lbs. of rubber to be added to my estimate of vine rubber, and against the cost of clearing and planting 1,000 acres of land each year you would have a net return of £18,000 from vine rubber and £5,000 from tree rubber, making altogether £23,000.

In the sixth year the estate would have 5,000 acres cleared and planted with 500,000 trees, of which 100,000 would be ready for tapping, and should yield about ½ lb. of rubber. This yield will increase annually, and when ten years old the trees should be yielding a minimum of 1 lb. of rubber of the finest quality.

TIMBER.—Another immediate source of revenue exists in the mahogany trees which are found in the forest. West African mahogany is now one of the highest-priced woods in that branch of the timber trade, and the logs from this part of the coast are the highest priced among West African mahoganies. The prices realised by the "Axim" logs during last year average over 1s. 4d. per foot, as against an average of 3½d. per foot for mahogany from other parts of West Africa. This high average is due to the large number of "flowered" logs which this brand of timber supplies, these "flowered" or "patterned" logs fetching fancy prices, single logs having been known to realise over £1,000. It is worthy of note that "Honduras" mahogany realised an average of only 5d. per foot during 1909, or less than one-third the average of "Axim."

I estimate that your estates contain about 50,000 fully-grown mahogany trees, which should yield an average of three logs of 20 feet length and 2 feet square.

It should be possible for you to fell 1,000 trees each year, which would yield 3,000 logs of an average gross of value of £10 each, taking no account of fancy values for figured logs. I estimate the total cost of felling, cutting into logs, squaring and dressing, floating down, shipping, freight and sale charges at £6 per log, leaving a net profit of £12,000 per annum from this source.

While awaiting the results of developing the estates by planting a revenue can be obtained as indicated by utilising the existing products. From 1,000 acres cleared and planted there will be from rubber
a net profit of ..... £23,000 per annum,
and from timber..... 12,000 per annum,

making a revenue of ... £35,000 per annum during the first five years' operations.

In the sixth year returns will be available from the planted rubber as each block of 1,000 acres comes to an age for tapping. The yield in the first year would be about £3 per acre, increasing in six years to about £10 per acre, making a considerable increase in your revenue each year until the eleventh year, when the total revenue should be £80,000, viz., £30,000 from wild rubber and mahogany and £50,000 from planted rubber.

I have read Dr. Rheder's report, and agree with what he says as to climate, transport and labour.

W. F. HUTCHISON,

Late Vice-President of Commission on Economic Agriculture, Gold Coast
April 22, 1910.

The issue should meet with a very favourable reception.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

The Islander.

If only Major Marshall's libretto were equal to some of Philip Michael Faraday's happily inspired numbers in the new musical comedy at the Apollo Theatre, then indeed I think Mr. Alex. Henderson would have been able to shake hands with himself and say, "I guess I've struck ile."

Unfortunately though the author has failed to tell his story with that sense of humour which is absolutely necessary for a production of this description, and the consequence is, when the interest in the music ceases, the interest ceases also.

Of course some of Mr. Faraday's melodies are reminiscent of old friends such as "The Songs of Araby" and "Hubble Bubble"—this last named song having only just been sung, to a rather different air and other words, on the same stage by Mr. Pellissier, and his well-chosen companions.

I think nervousness is accountable for the slight impression Neil Kenyon creates as "The Islander"; or has his style dwindled into so compressed a form that it is now nothing but a tiny tabloid you can swallow without even noticing it?

Miss Elsie Spain is a delightful singer and very handsome to gaze upon, and Mr. Sam Walsh is admirably suited to the character of Captain Alderson Jarrett.

As for the rest of the company—well they all boldly pin their colours to the same old mast in the self-same way, and there is nothing, I regret to say, very original about "The Islander" or the *mise-en-scene*. There may be happy moments here and there but there is no *great* interest anywhere.

"Saison Russe" at the Palace Theatre.

Somebody please tell me what is a *Saison Russe?* I have heard of a *Dinor à la Russe*, a *Salade Russe*, etc., but never a *Saison Russe*. But still there is no denying the fact that the people just devour the dish Mr. Alfred Butt has served up for his ever-increasing clientèle at the Palace Theatre.

If it is possible to convey by movement alone every conceivable emotion existing in human nature—gaiety, sorrow, love, hatred, despair, savagery, contempt, defiance, weariness, and emphatic triumph—it is done by Anna Pavlova and Michael Mordkin; the fragile-limbed woman and shapely man who hail from Russia, and are without exception two of the most exquisitely rhythmical, and finest examples of perfect dancers London has ever had the joy of applauding.

From the wild tempestuousness of Glazonnov's "L'Automne Bacchanale" and the deliciously alluring grace of Rubinstein's "Valse Caprice" to the fascinating languorous charm of Bleichman's "Adagio," Anna Pavlova and Michael Mordkin hold their audience spellbound. You can hear a pin drop. These incomparable artists are called again and again before the curtain, and the people never seem to grow weary of showing how well they know what is good and how truly they recognise the beautiful in art.

Pauline Chase.

What are you going to do next, dear Pauline? Surely the advertisement of your trip there and back to America to sell signed portraits for a few hours in New York at a bazaar, got up for sweet charity's sake, was enough, but now you've thrown another bombshell at us which has burst in our midst, and we hear you have travelled from some remote English province to Paris just to catch "Teddy" Roosevelt and get his autograph, and that not only were you acting on Saturday night, but were back again at your post Monday playing "Peter Pan" in Bristol. Oh! do come and stop in London altogether, and then we'll try not to forget you, if you promise not to do these sort of things any more.

The Repertory Theatre.

What is this I read! "When the Repertory season is ended *pro tem.*, Mr. Frohman will present at the Duke of York's a new play called 'Helena's Path,' written by Mr. Anthony Hope and Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox"!

That *pro tem.* has what "below stairs" they call "given me to think." To be perfectly frank, nothing will make me believe that the Repertory Theatre has been a big financial or even artistic success.

"Justice" was certainly a fine, virile piece of work, but it was altogether too sombre and miserable for the English stage. As for the other productions staged by the Repertory Theatre—with the exception of "The Twelve Pound Look"—the less said about them the better, and the only play that has apparently resulted in "drawing" good houses is Pinero's "Trelawney of the Wells." But one swallow does not make a summer, particularly in an ambitious venture of this kind with big salary lists, heavy fees, and numerous other expenses attached to it. I am sorry, for I somehow do not think things have turned out quite as well as Charles Frohman thought they would.

But that the Repertory Theatre will terminate *pro tem.* speaks for itself. Repertory Theatres never do such a thing on the Continent, except possibly for a short summer vacation.

No! the Duke of York's, methinks, will go the way the Haymarket went. We cannot manage Repertory Theatres in this country.

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AMONG THE LAWYERS.

MISFORTUNE IN DISGUISE.

It is a pathetic fact that not a little of the legislation more especially intended to benefit the poorer section of the community injures rather than does them any good. In the late Parliament the legislation designed to protect a workman from the monetary losses incurred by accidents received considerable extension. For example, the domestic servant was brought within its scope, but so far as the more destitute and poorer section of working women is concerned it has rather injured than helped, because whilst in old time employers were willing to employ women and others whose health or age might leave something to be desired, the responsibility as placed upon them by the new Act compels them to be more cautious and to insist upon health and strength in those they employ, to the serious loss of many in urgent need of work. A recent illustration of this tendency of the law to injure those it was specially intended to help is to be found in the judgment of the House of Lords in Clover, Claydon and Co. v. Hughes.

In this case a workman suffering from aneurism in an acute stage of the disease died while he was tightening a nut with a spanner. It was very ordinary work, requiring only very ordinary strain, but whilst he was doing it the aneurism burst and the man died. He might have died anywhere, when he was sunning himself at Brighton, or looking after his spiritual affairs in church. The fact that it happened when he was doing gentle work did not, one would have thought, bring him within the definition of accident as defined by the Workmen's Compensation Act, but the House of Lords are of different opinion. They have ruled that he was the victim of an accident as defined by the Act, and consequently that his employers were responsible under the Act. This may be law; we suppose it must be, since it has been so decided by the highest Court of the realm, though, it must be added, the decision was not unanimous; but if it is law it is certainly not common-sense. What was the object of Parliament in giving workmen the right to claim compensation for accidents occurring to them during their employment? Surely it was that if a man was giving his time and skill in the service of another and incurred as a direct result of that service some disabling injury, the employer should give him compensation. But can it be said that a man suffering from aneurism in an acute stage, walking day by day, as it were, in the shadow of death, suffers an accident within the meaning of Parliament, because in the fulfilment of time, and not owing in any way to excessive strain, the aneurism bursts, and death follows?

This decision, which must be taken as the final expression of the law of the land, will not matter much to the insurance companies—they will readjust their conditions of insurance so as to equalise the risk—nor will it matter much to most employers—they will be more strict in getting rid of physically weak men who may now be in their service, and refusing to accept the services of others who may come to them. The insurance companies have already taken steps to differentiate between the insurance of men who have been medically examined by their employers, and others who have not, and we may be sure that in future, and largely owing to this decision in the House of Lords, the weak man, or the man verging on old age, will find it more difficult than ever to get work, or to keep it.

LEGAL ANSWERS.

Right of Way.—J.B. Reader.—If there is no reservation of the right of way in your conveyance, you have the property free of it, and you can refuse to allow the passage to be used. The neighbour must settle the matter with the vendor.

Money Lending.—Weekly Reader (Hammersmith).—If you carry on a money lending business you must do the principal part of the lending transaction where you are registered, and you ought not to carry out loans wholly at other places.

Overhanging Trees.—L. L. B. (Kent).—The owner of the trees is not liable for the damage, and your only course is to apply for an injunction, which you would easily get, compelling him to cut the trees back.

Carriage Licence.—S. C. (Stilford).—You must have a licence for every vehicle you use for pleasure purposes. Giving a friend a ride brings the cart under the law as to licensing.

Guinea Set of Teeth.—J. D. (Westcombe).—There is an implied condition in the contract that the teeth should fit, and as they do not you should go to the Dental Hospital, Leicester Square, and get an expert opinion. If that is against the city dentist who advertises "a set of teeth for a guinea" you should bring an action in the County Court for the return of your money and for damages.

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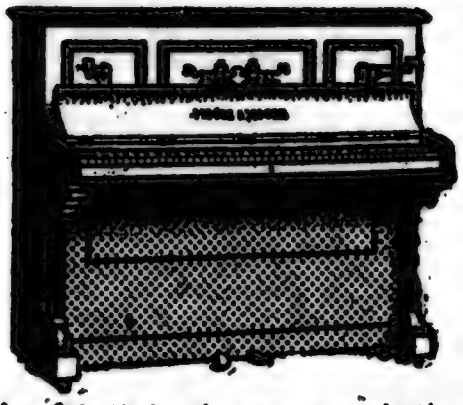

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The Rev. W. Everingham, B.D., Canon, Missioner, and Chaplain to the Bishop of Bristol, has written to the International Correspondence Schools as follows:—

"Dear Sirs,—What England sorely needs just now if she is to hold her own, and develop the latent power in her sons and daughters, is the kind of thorough technical training which the I.C.S. offers on such easy terms that every young person with average ability and self-respect may embrace to advantage.

"Such a scheme ought to be welcomed by everyone who cares for the future happiness of the present and rising generation.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. Everingham, B.D."

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JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

The Suffrage War.

A lady sends me a very courteous but emphatic letter in reply to my question as to whether the average woman cares to read about the doings of militant Suffragists. She suggests that I should "with an open mind" attend several of the meetings of the Anti-Suffrage League, and then several more of the Women's Social and Political Union at Queen's Hall. Then both sides of the question would be fairly represented. I have already been, at different times, to meetings on both sides, and have heard all the arguments propounded in the usual feverish and hectic manner which seems inseparable from feminine political endeavour, on whatever side it may be—with, of course, a few distinguished and now quite celebrated exceptions. But I am so far a genuine representative of the average and homely English matron that I have conceived only a polite distaste for the whole thing, either for or against the suffrage. It is a funny fact that practically every ordinary woman you ever talk to, either in London or the provinces, admits, in a vague way, that women of property should have a vote, and quotes that old, old story of the widow lady and her gardener, but promptly and with pinched lips refuses to join any movement, go to any meeting, or call herself a Suffragist. This fact may be as irritating as Balaam's ass to the ardent workers in the cause, but as a fact it remains, and is worth study as a psychic problem which must have its logical solution—not yet discovered. If every Suffragist were as witty, as womanly, and as charming as Miss Christabel Pankhurst, the problem might be on the way to being solved. But we all have our feminine ideal, and the average platform woman does not somehow fit it. Therefore we will not listen to her propaganda. My correspondent will admit that even if all this is rather Victorian it is not "cant"—her clear abhorrence. It is the rather baffling truth.

A Masculine Superstition.

So another woman has won a publisher's prize for a best first novel—Miss Patricia Wentworth, with her "Marriage Under the Terror"—and Mr. Andrew Melrose, the publisher who awards this, has before now given this crown of bay to women writers. Last year, for instance, it was won by Miss Violet Jacomb's "Faith of His Fathers." Yet, in spite of these recent literary decisions, and many other brilliant proofs of the powers of women novelists, there remains a huge army of men who go on dictatorially informing the world that my sex cannot compete with their own as fictionists. Only the other day I heard an editor hold forth in this manner at a party, addressing principally two successful women journalists and one authoress who has won decided spurs. He himself has not, and could not, write an article to live, much less a book, but he did not hesitate to inform his listeners that their sex debarred them from ever attaining to his own heights of literary production—that is to say he "blue-pencils" and "scissors and pastes" the work of women to earn his honest daily bread. They contemplated him with that kind of pre-occupied cynicism which is really only possible to femininity, otherwise they did and said nothing, though possibly one noted him for a future book, and the others took gentle stock for press caricature. Still, it seems wonderful that this delusion survives so sturdily. Since the novel was invented in the 18th century, until the middle of the last century, the output was only very small indeed from either men or women. But from that time onward the string of feminine names whose writings are absolute classics is a long and almost unbroken one. And the reasons why a woman shines as a story-teller are so obvious. She has such a passion for the speculative and the psychic, apart from her ready imagination, instinctive observation of detail, and natural bias towards romance. She may not have the qualities that make an engineer or a great inventor, but why she shouldn't be an entertainer (and a novelist is a sort of entertainer) when she alone prevents the world from dying of dulness, I cannot see, even to please men who never wrote novels in their lives.

What a wonderful thing it would be if some inspired woman could write a cookery book giving a dozen brilliant recipes for hiding the foods men say disagree with them, but which really don't do anything of the sort. The recipes might be arranged in couplets—the original fashion of cookery of a particular food, with its attendant disguise. Then, when a husband began to have a bout of saying that that special thing gave him indigestion—and they will do—she could turn to the alternative recipe and feed him on that till he again forgot that food craze for another. There is the man who won't touch rissoles for months at a time, till he forgets that they disagree with him in the superior claims of veal. There is the man who lays down his knife and fork and weeps (or swears) every time he sees sweet-breads on his own table, but who will cheerfully eat them on somebody else's and say nothing about it. And there is the man who lays at the door of his wife's menus all his headaches, his tempers, his snorings, his business losses and his ill-luck in sport, but to whom a City company's banquet has no terrors, and no after effects. How wonderful is the power of faith.

NOW IS THE TIME TO CURE CATARRH & NOSE-BREATHING DIFFICULTY.

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NO OPERATIONS—NO CAUTERISING—NO SPRAYS—CURES AUTOMATICALLY DURING SLEEP.

It is the hearty desire of the discoverers of the new cure that all who suffer from the above complaints should write or call for a gratis copy of the book they have just published under the title of "Respiratory Re-Education: The Rhycol Cure for Catarrh, Adenoids, and Nose-Breathing Difficulty."

The book advocates in a most plain-spoken manner a method of cure of a class of complaint which has hitherto defied treatment.

The cure is remarkable inasmuch as it calls for no sprays nopowders to be snuffed, no operations, and no painful cauterising of the inflamed mucous membrane.

The new cure is further remarkable as it cures automatically during sleep.

Every reader afflicted with Catarrh knows how this hitherto incurable complaint prevents proper breathing. The nose is unable to do its duty of filtering, moistening, and warming the air, and the MOUTH is called upon to do the work AS WELL AS IT CAN.

Illustration from book showing Catarrh centres of head.

As a result of this EXTRA duty of the mouth, the breathing becomes inefficient and shallow, and frequent head and chest colds are "caught," because of the improper reception of the cold air. The nasal air-passages—by disuse—become more and more obstructed, causing Adenoids and Polypi and throat and nose troubles.

The falling back down the throat, or on to the back of the tongue, of the poisonous, evil-smelling, slimy, mucous matter causes offensive breath and a bad taste in the mouth.

The hearing generally becomes affected, the head feels hot, and the eyes dry (with spells of acrid watery discharge from eyes and nose).

The senses of smell and taste become seriously impaired.

Even the mouth-breathing is handicapped by the accumulation of catarrhal matter in the bronchial tubes and lungs.

Further, the pent-up catarrhal slime often gets into the stomach and the liver and the kidneys, seriously interfering with their functional ability, and frequently giving rise to catarrh of the stomach and bladder.

The joint authors of the discovery—as the result of a fruitless quest for relief and cure—were led to experiment along the line of "the First Cause," the nose and its respiratory functions.

Immediately the method of cure described by the book is applied, there is striking evidence of its curative powers. It is, as one man put it, like coming into the fresh air out of a stiflingly close atmosphere.

Undoubtedly a most powerful factor in the success of the new cure is the fact that it may be employed DURING THE WHOLE OF THE NIGHT without discomfort or any inconvenience. This all-night period of treatment contrasts strongly with the mere two or three minutes of treatment with the now obsolete spraying methods.

The success of the new treatment is immediately obvious to all who try it.

In one night the nose, ears, tongue, and throat give every evidence of the good work of the cure.

In one week the nose and mouth both cease to discharge catarrhal matter. The brain, eyes, and ears feel clear, the mouth and throat clean and sweet, and the taste and smell become as keen as ever

The new cure quickly puts a stop to:—

—Nasty Dropping in the Throat.	—Catarrh-Coated Tongue
—Head Stuffiness	—Discharge from Nose
—Nose Stuffiness	—Offensive Taste in Mouth
—Throat Dryness	—Catarrhal Deafness
—Loss of Smell	—Bad Breath
—Spitting of Thick Phlegm	—Voice Troubles

The book explanatory of the new cure contains some most remarkable illustrations, which help to make strikingly clear the common-sense principle upon which the new cure is founded, and which cure, be it noted, is expected to vastly decrease the number of painful and costly operations hitherto considered to afford the only chance of relieving nasal obstructions and inflamed membrane.

An edition of 100,000 copies of the book has been published for FREE DISTRIBUTION, and all who wish to quickly cure Catarrh, Adenoids, Polypi, or other Nose-Breathing difficulty, or Catarrhal Deafness, Throat and Voice and Bad Breath Troubles, should send (or call) for a copy. A penny stamp should be sent to defray postage. The address from which the free copies of the book may be obtained is—The Rhycol Publishers, "Respiratory Re-Education," 37, Rhycol Buildings, 130, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

JOHN BULL readers able to call should do so. They will then see life-size models, showing the labyrinth-like air cavities and passages at the rear of the nose where post-nasal catarrh exists. These anatomical models enable all who see them to understand why it is that sprays and lozenges cannot cure Catarrh and Nose Breathing Difficulty.

YOUNG MOORE'S MONTHLY PROPHECY.

MAY.

Celestial phenomena portend a month of exceptional interest. On the 2nd, in consequence of the planet Mercury being at its greatest elongation, there will be a Stock Exchange holiday, marked by hilarity and mercurial spirits in financial circles. On the same day, the Moon entering its last phase at 1.30 p.m. there will be a strange epidemic of eye trouble accompanied by excessive yawning amongst the frequenters of Burlington House. It may be mentioned that the Royal Academy exhibition opens on that day.

On the 13th the planet Neptune will be in conjunction with the Moon, and in consequence the Easter Law Sittings will come to an abrupt termination. Persons uninstructed in the sublime science of Astrology may fail to see the connection between the two phenomena. But those learned in the law will detect the subtle association of litigation and luna—. See?

On the 15th there will be trouble north of the Tweed. Seeing that the date mentioned is a Scottish quarter-day it is unnecessary to adduce celestial evidence to confirm the prophecy.

The gloom of Scotland will be thrown into striking relief by the comparatively exuberant happiness that will prevail in England on the following day, the 16th, Whit-Monday, when so much of the joyousness of the Merrie England of old as has survived the persistent and bitter attacks of the kill-joys and pleasure-punishers will burn with a brief and lambent flame. Cocoa-nuts will be in the descendent, and savings since Easter will be in the expendent. The next morning a number of persons will be in the repentant and defendent.

On the 26th Parliament will meet after the Spring recess. The country must brace itself up to bear this affliction. The 24th is Empire Day, and many pessimistic people will see a gloomy significance in the fact that the day will commence with a total eclipse of the Moon, partly visible as a partial eclipse at Greenwich. This phenomenon, however, far from presaging the blotting out of the British Empire, merely marks the commencement of the Trinity Law Sittings.

During the month Halley's Comet may be seen at some time or other by somebody somewhere. But thereby hangs a tail.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

With reference to the article in our issue of April 16th on "Boarded-Out Girls," the Director of the N.S.P.C.C. desires us to say that:—

1) The Society enquired very fully into the alleged ill-treatment of Mr. Taylor's child, and though the bruises were visible, were not satisfied that they were inflicted by the person accused by Mr. Taylor.

(2) Their Inspector denies that he made any charge as to drunkenness (our statement was not that the Inspector made it, but that Mrs. Weston made it), and

(3) That no complaint was made to the Society as to Mr. Taylor's daughter having been indecently assaulted.

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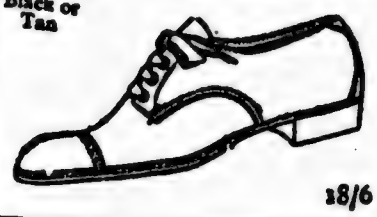

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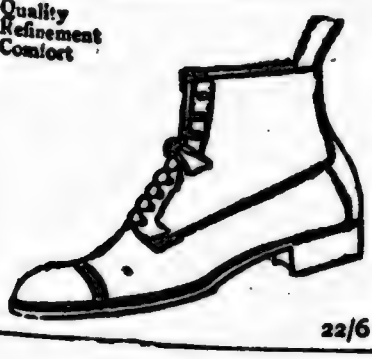

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DRAMATIC FRAGMENTS.

By Walter Moore.

II.—THE TRAGEDY IN THE WOOD.

Scene.—A glade in the Backwoods. *Enter*, in great haste and a profuse perspiration, a Wild Peer.

Wild Peer: Safe for a moment! But, damme, only for a moment, I'm afraid. Why the deuce should I be hunted like this? I'm sure I've always done what I've been told, and when I haven't been told I haven't done anything. What more could I do?

[*Enter*, from right, Lord Rosebery.

Rosebery: Hi! Don't run away, you fool! You can't escape. You're surrounded. Surrender at discretion. That's the only way to gain respect.

Wild Peer: Traitor! You have turned against your own class. What are *you* but a glorified Wild Peer?

Rosebery: Nothing of the kind. I am a serious politician. Have I not held office?

Wild Peer: You certainly grasped it, but—he! he!—I can't say that you *held* it.

Rosebery: Tut; that's a detail. Look you here. *We* can't afford to quarrel. Let me arrange this little matter, and I'll guarantee to make things as comfortable for you as possible. But you've got to die—politically—you know. The question is, would you rather expire painlessly according to my prescription, or violently at the hands of the Radical mob?

Wild Peer: I decline to die at all! Why should I surrender the political life handed down to me from my forefathers? I should be acting the traitor to my son!

Rosebery: But don't you see, you fool, that you have only two alternatives? Unless you let me despatch you painlessly, Asquith and his gang will slay you painfully, and I shall be involved in the slaughter.

Wild Peer: I protest against the whole thing! I am very comfortable as I am; and I'll see you damned!

Rosebery: You'll be damned if you don't. Listen; accept the inevitable from me, and we'll make the House of Lords so strong that it will be able to protect the interests of our class. On the other hand, if you defy the Radical gang, we shall all become their prey.

[*Enter* Mr. Asquith, with an axe.

Asquith: Oh, there you are. Come on. Your game's up! [*Enter* rabble of Radicals.

Radicals: Off with his head! Rosebery's too!

Asquith: Order! Let the thing be done in a seemly fashion. Bring the block, boys.

[*Enter* Nationalist Party with block.

Rosebery (*whispering*): There you are! I told you so. Now we shall *all* suffer. You blithering idiot! Why didn't you let *me* execute you?

Wild Peer (*hurriedly*): Perhaps there's time yet. Kind sir [to Asquith], if I *must* die, I think I would rather my friend here killed me. So much nicer, you know, to feel that one has a friend about one at the last.

Asquith (*suspiciously*): H'm. I don't know about that. [*Enter* John Redmond.

What do *you* say, Redmond?

Redmond: Why, exterminate the whole breed. If you don't, you'll only have trouble again later on.

Asquith: Perhaps you are right. Now, boys, where's the sawdust?

Wild Peer (*whispering to Rosebery*): Do you think they really mean business?

Rosebery (*behind his hand*): Rather! Look at the Nationalists smacking their lips and licking their chops.

[*Enter* Labour Party.

Labour Party: Now then, Asquith, isn't the job done yet? How long will you be?

Asquith: Wait and see.

[Nationalists, Radicals *and* Labour Party *gather menacingly around* Asquith.

All: No jibbing! Or out you go.

Asquith: I'm not jibbing; I was merely considering.

Wild Peer (*whispering to* Rosebery): Now's your chance. Stab me under the fifth rib whilst they are not looking; but I shall expect you to revenge me.

Rosebery: I will. [*Stabs* Wild Peer *and escapes.*

Mob (*gathering round body of* Wild Peer): Ha! Cheated of our prey!

Asquith: What's the trouble? He's dead isn't he?

Mob: Yes; but we wanted him to die *our* way. Now we shall be worse off than we were before.

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President—Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.

Objects: To stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to create a robust and self-reliant Public Opinion; and to promote a Common Sense, Business Government for a Common Sense, Business People.

CROWDED MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.

The second meeting of the Spring Campaign, at Sheffield, on Friday last, accorded to the President a most enthusiastic and typical Yorkshire welcome, both members of the League and the general public coming from all parts of the surrounding districts, including Doncaster, Rotherham, Barnsley, Dronfield, etc.

At an early hour people assembled at the main entrance to the Albert Hall, and on the doors opening at 7 p.m., the crowd, which by this time had assumed huge proportions, speedily took possession of all parts of the Hall, and in a very short time every available seat was occupied, "Standing room only" soon giving way to "House Full" of Yorkshiremen and women, who thoroughly enjoyed the tasteful selections which comprised the recital on the grand organ by Mr. J. W. Phillips.

A storm of applause signalised the appearance on the platform of the President, and on his having taken the chair, the Secretary called on Mr. F. Wallis to sing the League song, the chorus being heartily taken up by the audience. The Secretary then called on Mr. Bottomley, the long-continued applause which greeted his rising testifying to both the popularity of the League and its President.

Having briefly explained the aims and objects of the League, which met with hearty approval, the President followed with a scathing review of the political, religious and social worlds.

His references to his recent attitude in the House of Commons on the subject of the German crane ordered by the Thames Ironworks Company, in connection with the building of H.M.S. *Thunderer*, were received with enthusiasm. On the thorny question of fiscal reform he was able to command the unanimous support of his audience by declaring that it was a purely business question, and that a small committee of business men would have no difficulty in disposing of it. At the conclusion of his address the President received another ovation, and a resolution formally approving of the objects of the League was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation. As one of the audience told us afterwards, it was one of the greatest demonstrations ever held in Sheffield. The Hall, large as it was, was far too small to accommodate all those who wished to be present.

Our Local Secretaries, Messrs. B. H. Tubbs, E. Jennings and F. Wharton, ably assisted by a band of 60 stewards, were responsible for the arrangements, and to their efforts the great success of the meeting is to a large measure due.

THE NEWCASTLE MEETING.

The General Secretary proceeded from Sheffield to Newcastle on Saturday, where he was met by Mr. W. Balmer, Jun., one of the Local Secretaries; Mr. S. W. Taylor, Local Secretary for Gateshead, and a few enthusiastic friends. These gentlemen reported that the utmost interest was being taken in Tyneside in the forthcoming meeting, and that there was already a great demand for tickets. As at our other meetings, however, the greater part of the Hall will be unreserved, and no tickets will be issued, except for the Platform and a portion of the Side Elevation.

We wish to draw particular attention to the fact that at this meeting the President will take the chair at 8.30, the doors being opened at 7.30. As at our other meetings, we have arranged for an organ recital from 7.30 to 8.30, and Mr. Donaldson Spark will sing the League song. Further information can be obtained from the Local Secretaries for Newcastle-on-Tyne, Messrs. W. Balmer, Jun., 43, Elleanor Street, Cullercoats; and W. N. Rice, 51, Dilston Road, or the Local Secretary for Gateshead, Mr. S. W. Taylor, 79, Rodsley Avenue, Gateshead.

We are busily engaged making arrangements for other Provincial meetings, full particulars of which will be announced in due course. We may, however, mention that we have engaged St. George's Hall, in Liverpool, for a meeting on the 27th of May.

THE PORTSMOUTH BRANCH.

We are gratified to learn that since the recent visit of the President the Local Branch has been extremely active, and that the membership has considerably increased. A meeting was held on the 20th inst., when Mr. Councillor J. Bishop, J.P., was elected Local Chairman; Mr. G. F. Weller, Vice-Chairman, and a strong committee was appointed. Regular meetings are being arranged.

Dave.—Correspond (in confidence) with J. S. S., or J. W. L., Sunderland.

Ocean Accident.—R. T.—We note that you have been treated in a very fair manner, and promptly received a cheque for the £175. We anticipated nothing else from an office of such high standing.

It is all very well to "wave the flag," but what are you doing to support it?

Are you buying a *foreign* Shaving Stick when the British-made "Erasmic" is better than any foreign Soap?

Give your own countrymen a chance; try the British "Erasmic" Shaving Stick.

Money (and postage) refunded if you are not satisfied. What could be fairer?

TRIAL SAMPLE 2d. STAMPS.

The ERASMIC CO., Ltd.
(Dept. K), Warrington.

Erasmic SHAVING STICK

I Don't Think

that 3/9 is an excessive price for a new suit, do you? But that is all you pay to have an old suit made to look as fresh and smart as new by the Achille Serre process of dry-cleaning. And the time taken is only a few days.

Write to-day for our booklet "Clothes and the Man" and address of nearest branch or agency.

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Hackney Wick, London, E.

TELEPHONE 1265 EAST.

Carriage paid one way on all orders sent direct.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL DEMONSTRATIONS.

REMARKABLE CURES AT MACAURA'S INSTITUTE.

HUNDREDS VISITING HIM.

MACAURA STILL GIVING FREE TREATMENT.

Dr. Macaura's wonderful exhibition of healing the sick at the Royal Albert Hall by the aid of his new Invention is creating widespread interest among all classes. Hundreds who were unable to obtain treatment on the stage during the Demonstrations are visiting him at his Institute for the Free Treatment he so generously offers, so that the suffering public may test for themselves the wonderful curative power of his new Invention.

The Doctor interviewed at his Institute, 12, Princes St., Hanover Sq., said that 464 patients called for treatment on the day following his Demonstrations at the Royal Albert Hall.

Macaura's Institute was filled with Paralytic, Rheumatic, and Deaf patients, each one patiently waiting their turn, whilst Macaura himself assisted by his staff continued to treat the sufferers, effecting marvellous results in a few minutes.

MACAURA,
Whose latest invention (the Blood Circulator) has created a new era in the cure of Paralysis, Rheumatism, Deafness, etc.

People who have been for years crippled with Rheumatism, Paralysis, Sciatica, etc., were immediately treated in full view of the enthusiastic audience, while the deaf were made to hear in a most surprising way. Treatment after treatment was given, and the large audience which witnessed the Demonstrations showed their appreciation of the Doctor's good work by loud, continuous applause.

Many remarkable and well-known cases were treated most successfully on both evenings of the Demonstrations, which were not brought to an end until a late hour owing to the number of sufferers who clamoured and implored the Doctor to relieve their suffering. It would take many columns to report the number of cases successfully treated by Macaura during the Demonstration. The following few cases speak eloquently of the good work accomplished with his wonderful Invention.

WAS PARALYSED FIVE YEARS CAN NOW RUN.

This is a most pathetic case, for the patient was compelled to retire to a Workhouse, owing to having been stricken with Paralysis. Thousands cheered when this poor man, whose left side was almost useless, was made to walk across the stage of the Royal Albert Hall, after a ten minutes' treatment. His own words will best describe his present physical as well as his mental state. He says "To tell the 'Gawd's' truth I've walked farther to-day than I've done for five years. I'm telling the truth as I would to the priest." He concluded by saying, "Thank you and God bless you."

CAN YOU SEE THE UTILITY OF MACAURA'S DEMONSTRATIONS?

Who would believe such work was possible? If you haven't had the good fortune to be present at one of the Demonstrations, ask someone who has been an eye-witness there, and you can then judge for yourself as to the importance of this display of healing the sick by mechanical means. Macaura, however, does not claim to cure any disease in one application, and, as he said, it takes one dozen, and often more than 100 treatments, to completely cure the patient. One thing is certain and that when the patient is once cured that cure is permanent.

Just this amount of good work alone should be enough to cause us to admire Macaura and laud his invention.

A CRIPPLE FROM RHEUMATISM MADE TO WALK.

Those present at the Royal Albert Hall Demonstrations will easily remember the lady who was brought upon the stage in intense pain, and scarcely able to move. The large audience shouted for joy when they saw this lady walk by herself, after Dr. Macaura had given her a ten minutes' treatment with the "Blood Circulating Machine." It loosened her joints in full view of all present, and although the Doctor stated that she was not entirely cured, it looked like a miracle. She has had another application at the Institute by one of Dr. Macaura's Assistants, and she says she can now go up and down stairs alone.

Macaura's Institute is at 12, Princes St., Hanover Sq., London, W. His Blood Circulator can be seen there only. The hours are from 10 to 1 and 3 till 8 daily; Saturdays, 10 to 6.

DR. MACAURA'S BOOK EXPLAINING NEW INVENTION.

When writing for it two penny stamps should be enclosed for postage. This book saves time for the patient as well as for Macaura, for it answers all questions, explains everything, and tells the diseases which the Machine will cure, as it is not claimed that the Machine cures everything.

To Parents

and

To Youths

There are positions—not ordinary positions—but high-class and well paid positions—in Business Houses and in The Civil Service which we are securing every day for youths trained by us.

We secure positions for all our students, and the cost of training is small.

Our record during the last 30 years has been one of unparalleled success. We have secured **45 000 Successes** for our students in **The Civil Service and Business Training.**

If you live in or near London you can attend one of our branches, or if you live in the country you can have just as good a training by our specialized system of **Tuition by Post, direct to the home.**

Write to-day, and we will send you full particulars and free prospectus No. 18.

CLARK'S COLLEGE

The Civil Service and Business University of London,

1, 2, & 3, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

And Branches all over London.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Does familiarity with the Courts breed "Contempt"?
Will there be a Peerage Boom this session?
Isn't the "guillotine" a "capital" way of "despatching" business?
Isn't the Continental postage question a "penny wise" policy?
Will Mrs. Blanche Eardley now join the "No hat" Brigade?
Isn't the Free Trade Union adopting Protective measures?
Do the Labour Exchange figures prove that there is much to do?
Will there be an exhibit of Oriental pork at the Japan-British Exhibition?
Is the Motor Trades Association's motto, "No Trust"?
What would he do, and say, if he were made "Peer Hardie"?
What's the use of a French Theatre when we have all their plays—Anglicised—already?
Doesn't a drop in Rubber mean that it must bounce up again?

"Salon Picture 'Painted' by a Donkey," reads a heading. And they call it "news"

"Eager to Wed at Seventy," we read. No wonder; they've no time to spare.

"Duck-hunting of the future will probably be done by aeroplane," says a contemporary. Except, of course, on our sea fronts.

The Hampstead servant-girl who confessed to a liking for climbing trees must be unique—she is fond of getting up.

"The House of Lords has been a very difficult bedfellow for the Liberal party," says Mr. Haldane. It is now a question of which can kick the other out.

"The Marauder" is the name of a new curtain-raiser at the Adelphi. It ought to take.

"Death is the sponge which cleans the dirty slate of Life," says a contemporary. Is that why we speak of people being "wiped out"?

"The Bolster Book" is the name of a recent publication. It is rather suggestive of padding.

The feminine hat, we are told, is to be so large that the wearer's right eye will be obliterated. She must wink "the other."

Professor Milne has discovered that the world is elastic. We always knew it would stretch a point.

The new Thames *Dreadnought* is to be called the *Thunderer*. We hope it will be ahead of *The Times* at least.

"Tariff Reform means real horses for the Army," says the *Express*, and we can hear the *Star* murmuring, "To eat."

"Making a will is a great responsibility," says Mr. W. H. Burrell. The Premier finds that making a "Won't" is a greater one.

"Why Did He Do It?" is the name of a recent book. We give it up.

Owing to hooligans, High Street, Shoreditch, is said to be unsafe for respectable people at night. Better call it Low Street.

The foundation of an Institute of Linguists is suggested. Don't all speak at once.

The author of "The Women Napoleon Loved" must be a man of courage; he must have known that some of his characters would be bad.

"London Audience held for Two Hours," says a morning paper, in reference to a meeting of the Imperial Pioneers. Too bad to use force.

"A man takes longer than a woman to dress for a dinner party," says the *Manchester Guardian*. He has more to put on.

"Monte Carlo Profits," says a headline. Most of the visitors find that out.

At the Diss Urban District Council it was stated that not one house in the town was empty. Is there a building plot?

AN EVENING AT THE ADELPHI.

The other evening we spent a most enjoyable hour or two at the Adelphi, where Sir Conan Doyle has provided a remarkable entertainment. First of all, we saw a whole company of English people—Priests, clergymen, soldiers, women, girls—"saved" from the "yellow devils" by means of a poisoned pot of caviare, just a moment before the Relief Column arrived! It was Shakespeare at his best! Then we had a delightful glimpse of the English sport set of a hundred years ago, with a couple of boxing bouts thrown in. Upon the result of one of them depended the fortunes of the House of Temperley, and, of course, the happiness of two hearts. It was all very realistic and very exciting. Whether it was "legitimate" drama we do not profess to know. We must leave that to our dramatic critic to decide. But it was rare fun. Ben Webster, Murray Carson, Bassett Roe, and Claude King could not have played better even if it *had* been "legitimate" business. They were superb in their respective parts. We were also introduced to a fine young fellow in Reginald Davis, who will assuredly be snapped up by London managers. Everybody felt quite sorry that in the great fight, he got "knocked out" by the "hero."

We are sorry if the play ought *not* to have pleased us—but we think we must go again.

Chairman

A fine Tobacco

TO the pipe smoker of taste the smoking of a really fine tobacco means much. It covers all that there is in smoking enjoyment—aroma, coolness, evenness of combustion and that subtle, but real and most elusive, yet most essential quality, termed flavour, for lack of a better description.

These properties, rarely found in combination, are always found in *Chairman* making it a really fine tobacco—always the same, always enjoyable.

Boardman's
is the same tobacco milder, and
Recorder
the same, but fuller flavoured.

Sold everywhere at 6d. *per oz.*

If

The CHAIRMAN PIPE FILLER is self-contained, small, and convenient, and can be used for *every* tobacco. With it the pipe can be filled from the pouch or packet.

1/- *everywhere.*

R. J. LEA, Ltd.,
Manchester.

DON'T "WAIT AND SEE"

APPLY IMMEDIATELY FOR

THE

"Money Spinner"

It is a cleverly written book which can easily be understood by all. The "Money Spinner" deals clearly with every method of Stock and Share dealing.

MONEY CAN BE MADE

by following the instructions contained in this interesting publication. It is yours absolutely free of cost on receipt of postcard.

DON'T HESITATE. WRITE NOW.

THE LONDON COUNTY AND CONTINENTAL SHARE EXCHANGE, LTD.,

Telephone :— London Wall 4653. 119 & 120, LONDON WALL, E.C. Telegrams :— "Loccobarex, London."
(A few doors from Coleman Street.)

SEED POTATOES.

Working Men and Allotment Holders buy your Seed Potatoes from the right firm at the right prices.

Dalmeny Hero, Table Talk, The Factor, Duchess of Cornwall, President, King Edward VII, Scottish Triumph, Lord Dundonald, Sir John Llewellyn, British Queen, Pioneer, Radium, Evergood, Up-to-Date, Dalmeny Acme, Epicure, Eclipse, Sharpe's Express, Curtis' Wonder and Ealing Potatoes.
6d. per 14 lbs, 1/6 per 56 lbs., 2/6 per 112 lbs.

Beauty of Hebron Pink, Beauty of Hebron White, Sharpe's Victor, Myatts, May Queens, Duke of York, Midlothian Early, Ninety Fold, Windsor Castle, Early Rose and Early Puritan.
3d. per 14 lbs., 2/3 per 56 lbs., 4/- per 112 lbs.

Sacks free for cash with order. Free on Rails. Sent to any address immediately on receipt of P.O. Send for full Price List of Potatoes, Peas, and Beans, and particulars of our Cash Prize Competitions. Telephone and Telegraph Peas, 6d. pint, 1/1d. quart.

C. L. CURTIS (88), Anchor St., Chatteris, Cambs.

LEARN TO WRITE ADVERTISEMENTS

EARN £3 PER WEEK. Learn to write Advertisements. We teach you until efficient, and help you to find a position. Prospectus Free. Page-Davis Advertising School, (Dep. 73) 15, Oxford St., London, W.

Special Bargain Sale of STERLING PLAYER PIANOS

(Slightly used and returned from hire).

ALSO

PIANOS, PIANO-PLAYERS AND PLAYER-PIANOS

which have been taken in part exchange for Sterlings

Note these Great Bargains!

PLAYER-PIANOS.

"Sterling" (85 Guineas)	58 Gns
Overstrung Rosewood Simpletta, Standard 68 Note	38 Gns
"Mendel" (70 Guineas), only slightly used	45 Gns.

PIANO-PLAYERS.

"Angelus," with organ attachment, Standard 65 Note	£18.10.0
"Malcolm"	£14.0.0
"Orlando"	£15.0.0
"Rex"	£12.0.0

PIANOS.

Rose and Marqueterie Overstrung, by BLANKENSTEIN	£18.0.0
Walnut and Marqueterie, by CARL BETZ	£15.0.0

Do not miss this great opportunity for securing a first-class instrument on most advantageous terms.

Call and inspect these and other fine bargains, or write for full particulars to

COPPLESTON & Co., Ltd.,

3, Sterling House, 94, Regent Street, London, W.

FULL MONTH'S TRIAL!

THERE'S ONE FOR YOU FREE!

Send a postcard now for H. Samuel's FREE BOOK OF 3,000 WATCH AND JEWEL BARGAINS!

CHARMING GOLD NECKLET with PRETTY PENDANT. Set with Pearls and Amethyst or Topaz 42/-

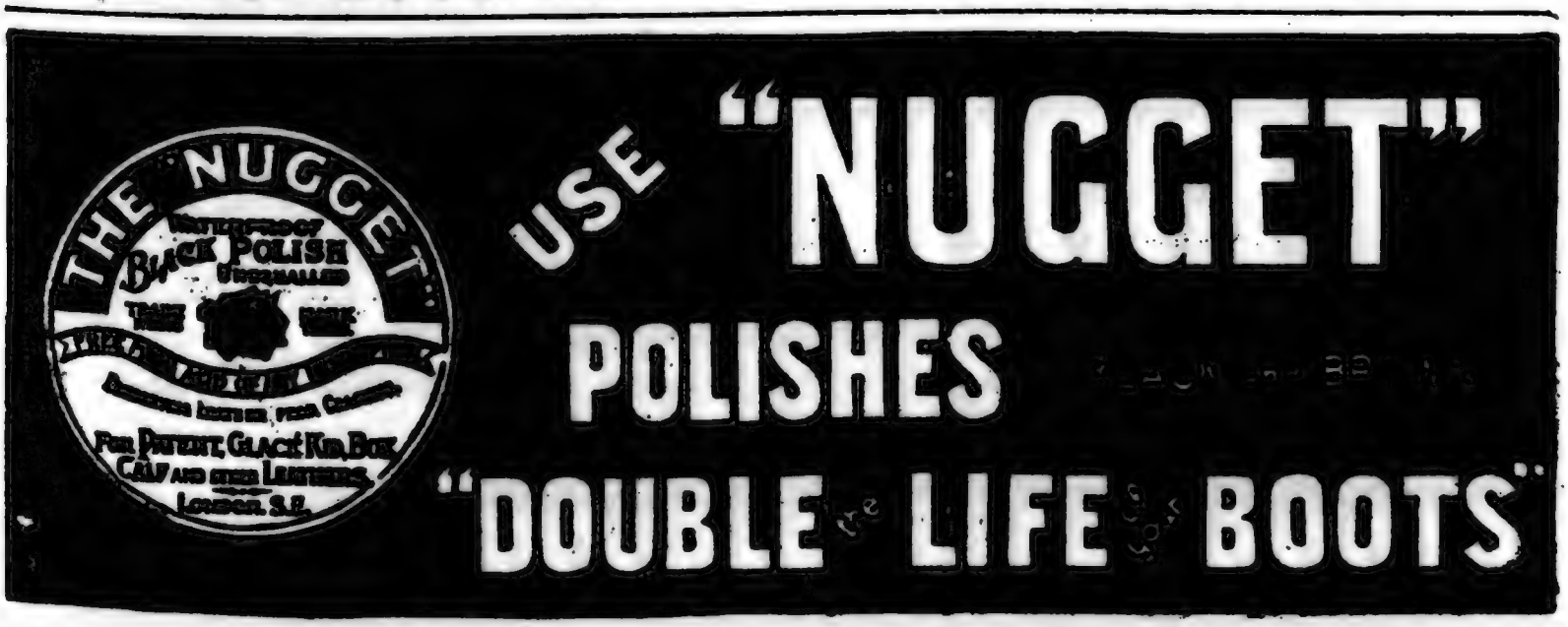
Thousands have saved usual retail profits by sending for this book. WRITE NOW! Full Months Trial on any article.

H. SAMUEL, 106, Market Street, MANCHESTER.
Chief London Branch: 156, Strand, W.C.

No. GIPSY RING. Set with 3 fine diamonds. Very Handsome 17/6

CLOTHE YOURSELF ON THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM.

Suits Cut by Experts. Prices from 42s. Instalments 5s. monthly. Be measured at home. Full particulars, telling how, from the GOOD WEAR CO. (Dept. 33), 4, North Street, Quadrant, Brighton.



JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

The Editor *can express no opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance: if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

R. H. (Aberdeen) sends the following from the *Evening Express*:—

"He was well-known and very rtgret of the suddn dath of Mr. Jamsshrdcmfw popular in Aberdeen."

And wants to know if this is good Welsh, or due to bad Scotch. We believe there is such a thing as Welsh whisky.

"One of the Cloth" says it is the fault of the public that post marks are illegible, because they insist on posting at the last minute. Evidently the official view is that the convenience of the public counts for little or nothing. He sends us two specimens of electrically stamped post-marks, but the Br in Brighton are a bit ambiguous. Br!

J. L——C (London, N.) writes in green ink to offer Crow a biscuit for saying Healy "always bites the hand that feeds him," and "would be very dangerous to his friends if he had any." J. L——C argues that, if Healy had no friends, no hand would feed him. But Crow always feeds his enemies.

C. J. R. (Leyton) and others suggest a biscuit to ourselves for speaking of a service of trains and steamboats "on the Clyde." What is wrong? Is not London on the Thames?

J. McL. (Brixton).—We do not recommend *any* of these racing "systems."

A. B. (Kennington Park) is in a fix. He says if he votes for the Conservatives he will help to increase the price of food, but if he votes for the Liberals he will be keeping up the prices of tobacco and liquor. He will have to come and live in South Hackney and vote for us.

"Shorehamite" (Shoreham-by-Sea) mocks at the *Daily Mail* for denouncing liars, and inquires: "What price the massacre in Pekin?" Mr. Chamberlain would certainly be busy if he wrote all the letters attributed to him.

"Cantab" (Cambridge) says that Cambridge undergraduates must not be held responsible for the bad behaviour of a few cads among them. He adds that groups of drunken and semi-drunken graduates would never be allowed to hang round the stage door of a theatre.

D. McC. (Cyldebank).—Mr. Bottomley has always sat in Parliament as a Liberal, or Democrat, reserving, with the full consent of his constituents, a large measure of independence.

V. M. M. (Tottenham)—A statement may constitute "Contempt of Court" and yet be no violation of the maxim, "If you see it in John Bull, it is so!"

F. P. (Welshpool) complains of the insufficiency of the brooms supplied to the charwoman at the Welshpool National Schools. Why not write to the local authorities?

"Two Bad Marks" (Cheshire) says that coroners' juries have accused the Anti-Vivisectionist Hospital of great neglect, and that this probably accounts for the withholding of a grant from the King's Hospital Fund. This may produce an answer.

A. R. (Brazil) says we sent him a present of a picture of our great-grandfather last year, and that he wants something different now. We are ordering a good supply of nuts.

H. T. (Lee) thinks it "downright offensive" of the Metropolitan Water Board to threaten to send workmen to cut off his supply. He will now have to wash in wine.

F. T. Y. (Tolleshunt d'Arcy) is sceptical about the consumption of 500 to 1,000 grains of corn a day by a crow, as stated in an advertisement of a scare-crow seed-dressing. We will ask Jim of that ilk.

"Antipodean" thinks the Germans are beating us at applied science, What, another?

"OUT OF SORTS"?

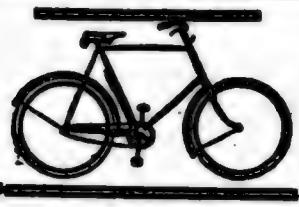
Is that your condition? You don't feel right-down ill, but you are not "up to the mark"—you have occasional headaches, or a little dizziness, or some pain after eating, or wind in the stomach! You are "out of sorts." It isn't right that you should be like that and it isn't *necessary!* Your stomach is at fault. Take a few doses of Mother Seigel's Syrup, after meals, and you will soon be as well as you wish.

YOU NEED THE DIGESTIVE TONIC

The herbal extracts of which Mother Seigel's Syrup is made will tone up and strengthen your stomach, and thus banish your ailments, increase your vitality, and make you fit and well. Mr. S. R. Evans, B.A., 41, Rosebery Rd., Redfield, Bristol, says: "For so long as I remember, Mother Seigel's Syrup has been used by the various members of my family, from time to time, for indigestion and allied complaints, always with excellent results. As for myself, Mother Seigel's Syrup has kept me *fit and well* for more than twelve years past."

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size.



NEW CYCLE FOR £3 17 6.

Guaranteed for Twelve Months and Carriage Paid to your Door.

If you want a new cycle for the coming season, why not avail yourself of the exceptional offer which we are making?

In order to advertise the merits of the Conqueror Cycle we are offering 2,000 of our £6 10 0 models at the extraordinarily low figure of £3 17 6.

Every one of these machines is fitted with two roller lever brakes, Villiers free wheel, and Edinburgh tyres made by the Dunlop Company.

This is the first time in the whole history of the cycle trade that a machine with a well-known tyre made by the Dunlop Company has ever been offered at such a low price. Write for List No. 17, also our special cash order form and signed guarantee and remember that we send you the machine on approval, ready to ride, and carriage paid to your door.

THE CONQUEROR CYCLE CO., COVENTRY.

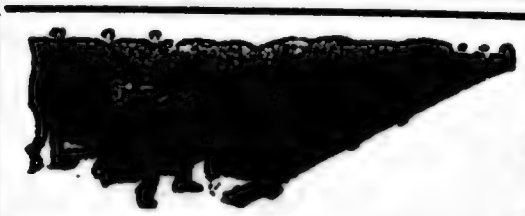
London purchasers can inspect machines at our London address,

Spencer House, South Place, Finsbury, E.C.

A REVERSION.

A young, able, active man of affairs, who has made money, can secure partnership with a high-class Financial Intermediary, contemplating early retirement. Advertiser, during many years in the City, and through wide travel, has acquired an extensive clientele among Capitalists of every social grade, whilst business comes from all parts. He would remain in harness for a given period to initiate and introduce his Partner, who would thereafter take the larger share, and at advertiser's death or (he having no business heirs) an agreed date, become sole Beneficiary.—Address, stating — confidentially—experience and amount available.

"CHAIRMAN," 5, Nicholas Lane, E.C.



HOW YOU CAN EARN £60 OR MORE A MONTH.

ONE BOX BALL ALLEY, costing £45, took in £103 in the first 51 days. Two others, costing £72, took in £273 12s. 4d. in 5 months. Men and women go wild with excitement, bring friends, form clubs, and play for hours. No assistants needed. All profit. Start one in your own town. Send to-day for illustrated pamphlet free.

ANGLO-AMERICAN BOWLING ALLEY CO., Dept. A, 9, Southampton Street, Holborn, London, W.C.

G. Y. (Bradford).—The Royal Card Company (Royal Parade, Kew) sounds suspiciously like our old friends the Kew Watch Company. We believe it has many aliases.

"Bishop of Little Ilford" defends church bells and says we might as well condemn clocks and watches, hooters and syrens. We don't see the analogy of time-pieces, but we hate unnecessary noise. Surely, pious persons do not need to be reminded of church time. They have brushed their hats and pulled out their hymn-books long before the first peal.

E. J. B. (Lee).—It was frank of the theatrical manager to advertise the criticism that "enthusiastic cheers greeted the fall of the curtain."

W. B. L. (Eynsford).—We have already kicked our sub-editor for that silly blunder about the gender of *amours*. He is old and stricken in years, otherwise he would have known better. The fact that *amour* is masculine in the singular and feminine in the plural illustrates the constancy of man and the flirtatious disposition of the fair. But what about *délice* and *orgue*?

J. V. H. (Penarth).—"Trusting to *illicit* your influence and kind support" sounds saucy in the election address of a candidate for the District Council—in fact, almost a corrupt practice. Did he get in?

"A Constant Reader" (Battersea).—We have already heard many complaints against these key insurance companies.

R. M. (Glasgow) writes: "With due respect to your expressed opinion that Jim Crow is a crank, as a regular reader of his articles I have come to the conclusion that they contain more sound sense and invincible logic than nearly all present-day writers bundled together." Jim bows and crows. We are glad to hear that the schoolmaster has desisted from his sumptuary regulations about boys' clothing.

D. L. W. (Stourbridge) read the following placard: "Primitive Methodist Chapel, Stourbridge. Good Friday, March 25th. Public Tea and Crucifixion. Tea, 5.30. Crucifixion, 7.30. Tickets, 1s." But he refused to pay a shilling to be crucified.

H. J. (West Green, N.) answered an advertisement for envelope addressing, inserted in the *Daily Mirror* in the name of Glynn Brothers, Advertising Contractors, 12, Theobald's Road, London. He received a circular from the Stylo Supply Company, beginning: "We have received from Messrs. Glynn Brothers, our Advertising Contractors, your reply to our advertisement." We must not, however, comment further, as the alleged principal in this matter has been arrested and committed for trial.

E. L. M. (Clapham).—The letter from the Municipal and Scholastic Agency (16, Central House, 12, Aldgate), which you thought typewritten, was stencilled, so you are probably not the only suitable applicant for the agency. Better keep your half-crown.

"Fairplay" (Bedford) complains of a turf accountant named James Mortimer (Brown Buildings, James Watt Street, Birmingham).

H. G. S. (Temple) complains of a turf accountant at 8, Gloucester Mansions, Cambridge Circus, but we are unable to read the name.

M. E. B. (Tottenham).—Lord Haldon's Artificial Teeth Aid Society (Oxford Street) must not induce you to bite.

"Runk" (Watford).—The London and Suburban Philanthropic Society (115, Borough High Street, S.E.) is on a very small scale, and appears to spend most of its funds on expenses of management.

Mrs. A. C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne) speaks well of Messrs. Allen Foster, who were criticised by J. R. (Grimsby), but admits they are slow.

P. G. W. (Notting Hill) writes, *re* Chanteclere veils, "Did not Chantecler appear on the fall (veil) of Peter?" He goes on to compare Chamberlain to a pat of butter, arguing that both are slippery. But only in hot weather.

J. G. P. (Southend) asks: "What the devil do you mean by anserine ineptitude?" The answer is: Rot.

L. S. A. (Stoke Newington) likes our Human Documents, but says. "Why racing news, when so many Documents have come to their present pass thereby?" Not by *our* racing news!

G. S. (Swansea).—We agree that it was stupid and unnecessary to publish the names of the 92 persons who applied for the post of Swansea school attendance officer at £60 a year. The *South Wales Daily Post* must be hard up for news.

"Spero" (Golder's Green).—The home-work advertised by "Ranelagh Avenue," Fulham, is not remunerative to applicants.

"Llanta" enquires about the Victoria Home for Old Soldiers, now requiring a "collector."

F. A. B. (Brixton) sends a quotation from "The Agents' Journal Year Book for 1910," showing Consols to be "simply a contraction" of cheese. He wants us to give a biscuit to go with the cheese.

Mrs. G. G. R. sends us a letter about vivisection, and underlines no less than 24 words, including "devilry," which, we should have thought, was strong enough to start with.

M. W. F. (Upton Park).—We have long advocated a small tax on high-priced amusements—the lord in his box, not the boy in the gallery.

G. B. (Sandown, I.W.) sends particulars of fanatics who subscribe to the Salvation Army and yet let their children go about barefoot. Is this vicarious philanthropy or a sample of the simple life?

B. H. (Glasgow) quotes from a poster at the Grand Theatre there:—

"Can a Woman be Good."

For six nights and one matinée.

That depends on the distractions afforded by Glasgow.

W. E. J. (Plaistow) complains of the National Sunday League concert arrangements. He and a young lady waited for nearly three hours outside the 2s. seat entrance at the Alhambra, and were the first two at the box-office. There they were informed that only 5s. seats remained. It was certainly too bad to keep people waiting like that. The queue was amazingly patient to submit to it.

H. K. (Abbey Wood).—4s. 6d. per thousand was an exceptionally good price for addressing envelopes, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. being the usual pay. We are afraid it is the old problem of putting people to work at which they are not accustomed.

H. M. C. (Manchester) and others, complain that upon applying for musical appointments in connection with the forthcoming "Festival of Empire," they are informed that their services must be given free for three months, that volunteers must undertake to provide a deputy in the event of their being unable to attend any performance, and that it is necessary to reside in or near London. He thinks this monstrous, in view of the large amount of unemployment amongst professional musicians.

C. P. (Southampton).—We suppose that when children of 15 and 16 months are brought up on a charge of being destitute and without proper guardianship, the intention is that they should be taken care of.

J. F. A. (Macclesfield) writes about the "mellow wisdom, the precocious intellectuality, the divine comedy, and the facile philosophy of Herbert Vivian." Who is J. F. A.?

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

25,000 SIXPENNY SAMPLE PACKETS of CHOCOLATE FREE for fresh Purchasers of Suchard's "Ibis" Cocoa.

Knowing that Suchard's IBIS Cocoa need only be tried once to be used always, the manufacturers have decided to present, gratis and post-free, a sixpenny packet of one of their well-known Chocolates ("Velma," "Milka," or "Milnut") *to every fresh purchaser* of a ½-lb. tin of "Ibis" Cocoa. This offer is made solely for the purpose of introducing to anyone not yet acquainted with Suchard's Specialities a Cocoa and a Chocolate of superlative excellence.

How to Obtain the Free Gift.

First purchase a Quarter Pound Tin of Suchard's Cocoa ("Ibis" Brand) from your Grocer. It will cost you 8½d. Inside the round tin (just at the top) will be found a paper disc, here reproduced.

Facsimile of disc to be sent with coupon.

Attach this disc to the coupon below which, after being filled up, should be sent to Messrs. Suchard, 33, King William St., London, E.C. A disc from ½lb. or 1lb. tin will do equally well.

In return you will receive a full sixpenny packet of one of Suchard's well-known makes of Chocolate—"Velma," "Milka," or "Milnut." You are given the choice.

Suchard's Cocoa ("Ibis" Brand).

There are many good cocoas, but none that can compare with Suchard's ("Ibis" Brand). Suchard's is altogether more palatable, digestible, and nourishing than any other cocoa made. It represents the very highest quality yet attained in cocoas—you need only try it to prove that this is so.

Nor can there be any doubt about its economy for family use—a breakfast cup full, at full strength, only costs a farthing.

Suchard's "Velma" Chocolate.

Certainly the greatest achievement in chocolate yet. In "Velma" one gets the real chocolate flavour. It tastes of nothing but chocolate. Until you have tried "Velma" you cannot really know how delicious chocolate—real chocolate—can be.

Suchard's "Milka" Chocolate.

Combining the purest Chocolate with genuine Swiss Milk, "Milka" possesses all the good points of other Milk Chocolates but it has this special advantage, it does not cloy in the palate.

Suchard's "Milnut" Chocolate.

A chocolate with a most delicious hazelnut flavour. This speciality has only recently been on the market, but has already achieved a striking success. It is a characteristic "Suchard" sweet—toothsome, nutritious, and absolutely pure.

FORM FOR FREE 6d. PACKET OF CHOCOLATE.

To Messrs. SUCHARD, 33, King William St., London, E.C.

Sirs,—Being a new purchaser of a tin of Suchard's Cocoa, please send one 6d. packet of Suchard's "Velma," "Milka" or "Milnut" Chocolate. I attach disc taken from the tin, which entitles me to this packet.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Only One Gift Packet Sent to Same Address.

Cross out the brand not chosen. "J.B." 30/4/10.

PAID AWAY TO CLIENTS

(ON SPECULATIVE ACCOUNTS ONLY)

£361,690

(The Sign of the N. S. E. is the Size of the £. S. D.)

BY THE

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.

WE

are the Largest firm of Stock and Share Dealers in the United Kingdom. As such we can do for you what no other firm of stock and share dealers can. Sooner or later the great majority of the public come to us.

ARE

you interested in Stocks and Shares? If so, then you ought to be interested in our business. We deal in all Markets, and we are in such a position that we are able to give you Good Sound Advice respecting any particular Stock or Share in any Market at any time. Besides being

THE LEADING FIRM

we are also financially the Strongest firm of Stock and Share Dealers in the United Kingdom. This position has been achieved by the steady growth of appreciation on the part of the Public. Without this approval we should not exist. It means that those buying or selling Stocks and Shares

Realise the Advantages of Limited Liability, Unlimited Profits, No Commissions, Together with the Magnificent Results

that can be achieved by Clients acting on our Advices and recommendations. Let us make it quite plain that of course you are not obliged to follow our Advice. We willingly Buy or Sell any Stock or Share you wish. But as a Client, whose letter we published the other day, said, he "considered our Advice essential to success," and he had materially added to his Banking Account through our advice during a period of over two years.

At the head of this page we give the amount paid away to clients to date. Appended are a few clients' accounts illustrating the material results they have obtained. This is good business, you must agree. Remember that all the time these clients whose initials are given have had the advantage of knowing that their liability is limited to the amount of their original outlay.

We Limit Liability to £6.

G.W.E.D.	Total £357	J.A.D.	Total £291
J.A.B.	„ £788	R.B.	„ £285
G.C.	„ £559	T.B.	„ £189

G.W.E.D.'s Account

Cheques	£	s.	d.
16636	15	16	6
16753	36	15	0
17003	20	0	0
17219	30	0	0
17570	33	17	6
17807	18	0	0
18311	16	0	0
18461	25	0	0
18694	84	15	3
18905	37	0	0
19151	37	10	0
Total	£357	14	3

J.A.D.'s Account

Cheques	£	s.	d.
16572	49	10	0
16673	44	0	0
16708	30	0	0
16737	14	10	0
18994	30	0	0
19048	13	0	0
19101	18	17	0
19262	30	10	0
19359	46	10	0
19417	14	16	6
Total	£291	13	6

R.B.'s Account.

16891	45	0	0
17519	120	0	0
17747	80	0	0
19438	40	0	0
Total	£285	0	0

J.A.B.'s Account.

Cheques	£	s.	d.
16511	120	0	0
16722	43	15	0
17194	31	5	0
17259	20	0	0
17330	100	0	0
17366	50	0	0
17409	70	7	6
17561	70	0	0
17627	80	9	0
17743	15	0	0
18803	178	2	6
19000	10	0	0
Total	£788	19	0

T.B.'s Account.

Cheques	£	s.	d.
16833	31	10	0
16850	21	0	0
17017	33	0	0
17097	18	10	0
17144	8	15	0
17192	31	10	0
17399	26	5	0
17935	18	10	0
Total	£189	0	0

G.C.'s Account.

16714	38	15	0
16997	37	5	10
17057	30	0	0
17078	48	15	0
17016	20	0	0
17137	10	0	0
Cd. fd.	184	15	10

Cheques	£	s.	d.
Bt. fd.	184	15	10
17186	15	12	6
17225	20	0	0
17393	9	10	0
17437	10	0	0
17496	16	17	6
17638	32	18	9
17901	19	15	0
17951	24	7	6
18096	10	0	0
18132	7	18	0
18401	16	5	0
18458	63	2	6
18528	10	0	0
18569	20	8	9
18965	11	5	0
19223	85	5	0
Total	£559	0	6

If you will fill in the Coupon at side, and post to us immediately, we will acquaint you with the particulars of our business and show you how it is possible to make a material sum with liability limited to a small outlay. Why should you not be represented in the amounts paid away to clients?

APPLICATION FOR PARTICULARS.

TO THE SECRETARY,
NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE, Great Winchester St., London, E.C.

Please forward me (as my name is not already on your books) full particulars of your methods and system of money-making, as well as a list of cheques, totalling £61,690, which you have paid clients acting on your advice and recommendations, together with a Search form, so that I can verify any single cheque, or batch of cheques, that I may select.

J.B. 360

NAME .....
(State Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss or Title)

ADDRESS IN FULL .....

(Please Write Distinctly) DATE.....

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GALE'S SPECIAL.

ONE SHILLING PER COPY.

EVERY SPORTSMAN KNOWS ! ! !
"GALE'S SPECIAL" is edited by Mr. B. T. Gale, who has been identified with the Turf for upwards of forty years.

WE ARE AT THE TOP ! ! !
"GALE'S SPECIAL" heads the list in big circulations! Obviously the moral is that subscribers are profiting by our knowledge. That is something which means the difference between being satisfied and otherwise.

WE ARE SPECIALISTS ! ! !
in racing matters, and the results hitherto obtained should be sufficiently convincing to the most incredulous. We come within the focus of the whole sporting world by whom the supremacy of "GALE'S SPECIAL" is unchallenged. Our record is sufficient proof that WE ARE IN THE KNOW.

WE CAN HELP YOU ! ! !
to get the best and most reliable of exclusive information based on certain knowledge. We do not wish to force anything upon you, but just give "GALE'S SPECIAL" a trial run.

WHAT IS WRONG ? ? ?
You may be constantly complaining of your bad luck, and wonder what is wrong. There is nothing wrong except that you do not go to the proper source for information. Consult "GALE'S SPECIAL."

LET US PROVE IT ! ! !
To be in the know is the keystone to prosperity. Not to know means continued losses. You want to know, and we will place at your service the benefit of expert, conscientious, and reliable intelligence exclusively obtained. Let us help you! The information we impart to our subscribers is based on long and successful experience in using the knowledge and exceptional intelligence which we command to the best advantage. That is the secret of our success!

"GALE'S SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS
convey the most important and reliable information ever placed within the reach of the racing public.

RECENT WIRES HAVE GIVEN:—

April 6th—
HUCKLE MY BUFF, 11 to 10 agst .. .. .. Won
April 8th—
POWDER PUFF, 7 to 2 agst .. .. Won
April 9th—
ABATTIS, 5 to 2 agst .. .. Won
April 12th—
SLEEVE ROE, 11 to 2 agst .. .. Won
April 14th—
ROCK LANE, 11 to 10 agst .. .. Won
April 16th—
GALLEON, 11 to 10 agst .. .. Won
SYCE, 4 to 1 agst .. .. Won
April 19th—
EDWARD, 10 to 1 agst.. .. .. Won
GALATINE, 7 to 4 agst.. .. .. Won
April 20th—
GAME HEN COLT, 7 to 1 agst .. .. .. Won

WHAT WE OFFER YOU ! ! !
is sound, trustworthy, reliable information exclusively obtained.

TATTERSALL'S RING WIRES ! ! !

FIVE POUNDS FOR TWELVE GUARANTEED WINNERS.
TWELVE WINNERS FOR FIVE POUNDS.
FIVE POUNDS FOR TWELVE GUARANTEED WINNERS.
"Gale's Special" Guarantees You Twelve Winners for Five Pounds.

OCCASIONAL ONE-HORSE WIRES ! ! !

ONE POUND FOR EIGHT. ONE POUND FOR EIGHT.
EIGHT WIRES FOR ONE POUND.
TWO-HORSE WIRES ! ! ! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
TWO-HORSE WIRES ! ! ! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
TWO-HORSE WIRES ! ! ! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
THE TWO BEST THINGS OF THE DAY ! ! !
FIFTEEN SHILLINGS FOR FIVE MESSAGES ! ! !

WILL YOU SHARE OUR TRIUMPHS ? ? ?
We think you may be glad to let our knowledge supplement yours, and the substitution of profitable for unprofitable intelligence will mean an increased revenue for you. The success we have already achieved speaks for itself, and we have certain knowledge for

CHESTER AND KEMPTON PARK NEXT WEEK ! ! !
Last year we wired to all subscribers SANTO STRATO (4 to 1) for the Chester Cup, and EBOR (100 to 8) for the Kempton Jubilee Handicap, and we have something equally sensational for next Wednesday and Saturday.
"GALE'S SPECIAL" IS HOT ON THE TRACK and by efficient and accurate service has won the plaudits of the sporting world.

A RECORD OF SUCCESS ! ! !
"GALE'S SPECIAL" has sent out this season RATHLEA, DESMOND'S PRIDE, INDIAN RUNNER, SALAMET, BLUE SAND, FAIRY TOAST, OLD CHINA, MOANDUFF, THEO BOLD, PITCROY FILLY, MOONSTRUCK, WISE GIFT, PENUMBRA, RED SHAH, PLACIDUS, etc., etc.

WHAT DO YOU SAY ? ? ?
You must admit our record has been a wonderful one of consistency and reliability. There is nothing to fear! We don't believe in "swank" or guesswork, and if you join us your success is assured.
WILL YOU SUBSCRIBE?

Note that our ONLY address is—

GALE'S SPECIAL,
Ruskin Buildings, BIRMINGHAM.

Telegraphic Address—"WINNERS, BIRMINGHAM."

We undertake No Commissions for Clients, and do not accept Minors or Students at Public Schools as Subscribers.

Headache? Well—take a Zox. There's nothing like Zox for alleviating pain. It's a simple remedy, and absolutely safe. Keep a box of Zox Powders in your house — as a sure safeguard against such pain.

FREE. Zox is sold by Chemists, Stores, &c., at 1/- and 2/6 a Box, or can be obtained post free from the Proprietors. On receipt of stamped addressed envelope, The Zox Co., 11, Hatton Garden, London, E.C., will send two Powders free of charge if you mention this Journal.

Matchless Mixtures.

Just try any one of the following perfect blends if you wish to experience real pleasure from your pipe.

"TWO HOURS" Mixture 5d. per oz.
Cool, Fragrant, and absolutely Pure.
"ALDERWOOD" Mixture 5½d. per oz.
In Three Strengths. Our Latest Success.
"LUNTIN" Mixture 6½d. per oz.
In Three Strengths.
The Blend that made us famous.
"MOUND" Mixture 1/4 per 2 ozs.
Blended from the finest leaf procurable.

All the Best Tobacconists supply the above, but should you have any difficulty, send stamps to the amount for Samples to the Manufacturers,

Thomson & Porteous, Edinburgh.

FINANCIAL SUCCESS.

"THE LAW OF FINANCIAL SUCCESS" tells you in plain English how to make money and secure financial independence. It contains positive rules and instructions for every man and woman desirous of bettering their financial condition. The low price is but a fraction of its real value. Over 100,000 copies have already been sold. The book will be mailed post-paid promptly upon receipt of 6d

6D.

SEND FOR IT TO-DAY.

The Fiduciary Co., 36, Century House, Queen Victoria St., London E.C.

GRESHAM LIFE OFFICE.

Founded 1848. Assets, £16,750 000

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE POLICIES WITH CESSATION OF PREMIUMS DURING INCAPACITY
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VERY MODERATE PREMIUMS

Head Office:
ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY LONDON, E.C.

JAMES H. SCOTT, *General Manager & Secretary.*

The Gresham Life Assurance Society, Limited,

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

("Larry Lynx" of The People, and "Magpie" of The Globe.)

The Best Plan.

There are plenty of owners who invariably back their horses, having a little on even when their chance is considered nil. Mr. Stedall is the best example of this. His policy is becoming infectious, and many realise that in always supporting their animals for an even stake they are assured of a long price—and if it comes off once in six times it pays. It is always when one's investment varies that the loss comes, for the "good thing," carrying hundreds, assuredly gets beaten and the winners usually merely have a "tenner" or a "pony" "thrown away" upon them.

A Sufferer.

I am very sorry to say that W. Palmer, the Epsom steeplechase jockey who was for many years associated with Tom Sherwood's and J. Coleman's horses, is still lying seriously stricken as the result of a fall, and will never be able to follow any employment. There must be many—especially those who have employed Palmer, who was both a straight and capable little jockey—who must desire to give him a helping hand in his time of sore trouble, for when one is afflicted *and* penniless it is the saddest conceivable position. How necessary it really is for the authorities to create a fund to meet such cases, for although the Rendlesham Fund does so to an extent, it is not ample enough, nor is it compulsory for *every* man riding under N.H. rules to contribute, *as it should be*. The day must come when, somewhat after the lines of the French authorities, a nominal percentage upon all jockeys' fees will be deducted by the authorities as a kind of premium to this sort of insurance. Palmer has not been out of his tiny room since June, because he has no means of being carried out in the open air. A bath-chair is, therefore, being bought for him out of the £100 stake which Flower Saint won, on objection at Newbury, for that was not the real sporting way to win a race. Thus charity—REAL direct charity—is to benefit to that extent, and Palmer's is a very deserving case.

Medley.

How afraid everybody is to bid for tubed horses, although they will run all sorts of risks as regards their legs.

When a horse gets "knocked out," it invariably means that we have a bit more on to average it, and equally assuredly means that it doesn't "come off."

Coaches will have to be entirely done away with on race-courses now, for although one sees hundreds of motor cars, there are not more than two or three horse-drawn vehicles.

Prophetic.

Newmarket is nearly over, but the programme to-day (Thursday) presents an opportunity to really have a gamble, namely, upon

SYMONS PRIDE,

should the mare go out for this in lieu of waiting for the Jubilee. On Friday

DALNACRAG

must take the three-year-old handicap on the Sandown form, for he was then not lucky, whilst in the Guineas, despite the reputed improvement made in several of the fillies, I should not think of anything beating

YELLOW SLAVE.

On Saturday, at Hurst Park, the Victoria Cup seems pretty certain to fall to one of the penalised pair,

SENSELESS

or PRESTER JACK, and I very much prefer the former, who, at 6-13, including the extra, is ridiculously thrown in.

MY SPECIAL TIP.

I wish just to remind my readers that the final allotment of the JOHN BULL Half-crown Shares takes place at the end of this week. However unlucky we may have been in some of our runners lately, this is undoubtedly the "good thing" of the season, and CAN'T be beat.

"LOTINGA'S WEEKLY."

WEDNESDAY 1d.

THE "MONDAY MIDGET"

For Accurate Racing Intelligence.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY. PRICE 2s. 6d.
Four weeks, 7s. 6d. Ten weeks, £1. Plain Sealed Envelopes.

THE "MIDGET'S" Overnight One-Horse Code Selections

Published in all the principal papers in the U.K. every race day.

CINDERELLO FOR LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP | VALENS FOR NEWBURY CUP

Were both "M. M."

SINGLE HORSE SELECTIONS.

Offices: "MONDAY MIDGET," ASCOT, BERKS.

THE TOTALISATOR

(Pari-Mutuel).

FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

The following are some recent "Tote" odds.

Clorane 33 to 2. Bronzino 44 to 1. Sanctuary 39 to 2. Sherboro 24 to 1. Carrousel 28 to 1. Brandiminine 17 to 1. Down South 36 to 1, etc.

Taking Race for Race during March 78 % of Tote price against winners were better than starting prices.

Third Pool Jubilee Stakes closes April 30th.

Double Event Pools (both for win and places).

Chester Cup and Jubilee close May 4th.

TERMS, etc., FREE ON APPLICATION BY PENNY POSTCARD.

Manager, H. CULLERNE-BOWN.

BERT FRY, Flushing, Holland.

"The Scout" says:—"I put these amounts on with Bert Fry, of Flushing, Holland, who is a Member of Tattersall's and who pays if he loses."

Letter Betting a Speciality. No Limit. £100 to 1/- placing them 1, 2, 3, in any big race, and £500 to 1/- 1, 2, 3, 4.

PAUL COVERDALE,

Turf Accountant.

NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.

All clients' business transacted in the strictest privacy. Cheques signed with nom-de-plume if desired, or payments made in Bank Notes, Money Orders, or Postal Orders.
Write for my 1910 Record Book, and terms for Daily and Weekly accounts to—

PICCADILLY HOUSE, SACKVILLE STREET, LONDON, W.

Telephone Nos—2804, 5557, 2514, 2515 Mayfair. Telegrams—"REPAYABLE, LONDON."

TOPPING & SPINDLER FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

The OLDEST ESTABLISHED & MOST EXTENSIVE FIRM of TURF COMMISSION AGENTS in the WORLD.

Chester Cup, Kempton Park Great Jubilee Handicap, The Derby, etc. Double and Treble Events. No Commission whatever on Market, Starting or Accumulatives at Starting Price.

Our "TERMS AND RULES," containing Telegraphic Codes, etc., also "The Continental Sportsman," FREE on receipt of Post Card containing applicant's address.

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED:—*TOPPING & SPINDLER, FLUSHING, HOLLAND.*

POSTAGE 2½d. POST CARDS 1d.

THE GREAT OUTSIDER INDICATOR.

Sole Proprietors, THE RACING STUD, who have been praised by "Larry Lynx" of the *People*, JOHN BULL, *Racing World*, *Umpire*, *Sporting Life*, etc. This Indicator positively finds FORTY BIG-PRICED OUTSIDERS out of EVERY 100 RACES. Level Stakes. *Vanity Fair* says:—"The greatest moneymaking inspiration of the age." Send stamped address for full working proof and begin at once. 87, High Road, Chiswick, W.

Money Lent Privately, £50 to £1,000.

£50 repay £56 5 0. | £200 repay £225.
£100 „ £112 10 0. | £500 „ £560.

These terms quoted are for short periods. Loans for 3, 6, 9, and 12 months can be arranged and interest charged proportionately.

CALL OR WRITE TO THE WELL-KNOWN FINANCIER,

WOOLFE JACKSON, 28, Bernard Street, Russell Square, LONDON, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK

Established 1851.

SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

2½ PER CENT. INTEREST

allowed on Deposit Accounts, repayable on demand.

2 PER CENT. INTEREST

on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.

All general Banking Business transacted.

ALMANACK with full particulars, POST FREE.

C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary

ALLEN'S DAILY SYSTEM WIRES.

(Copyright Method, Entered at Stationers' Hall.)

A REGULAR INCOME GUARANTEED.

If you are anxious to make racing pay YOU MUST FOLLOW MY DAILY SYSTEM WIRES. Last Season the winnings from March 29th to November 27th averaged a

PROFIT OF OVER £10 DAILY.

These enormous profits were gained with the outlay of only £6 of capital, and after the first three weeks there was no further need to call on the capital whatever, for from the 15th April WE NEVER LOOKED BACK, but went on steadily increasing our winnings until the end of the flat season, when they totalled the magnificent sum of nearly TWO THOUSAND POUNDS. When you consider that never more than £6 of your own money was ever required to win this small fortune you will admit that I can safely claim to be

THE GREATEST TURF ADVISER IN THE WORLD.

I can honestly assure you that you cannot fail to make racing pay if you follow my advice consistently, and to show that I am prepared to back up my statements

I GUARANTEE YOU A REGULAR INCOME,

providing you follow my instructions, and should I fail

I WILL RETURN YOUR MONEY IN FULL,

without making any deductions for telegraphic expenses. You must admit that this is a sporting offer and is convincing proof that I can do all I claim.

After reading this advertisement no doubt you will be curious to know more about my Daily System Wires, and as this advertisement goes to press too early to admit of my inserting latest successes, I want you to write your name and address (which will be kept strictly private), together with the words "JOHN BULL" on a postcard, and send it to me immediately. I will then post you in PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE descriptive booklet containing full particulars, press notice, copies of testimonials, a COMPLETE LIST OF SELECTIONS FOR 1909, and list of successes for this Season up to date.

Don't delay, but write NOW to

C. ALLEN,

61, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, London, W.C.

Telephone No. 18227 Central; Telegrams, "Reglincom, London."

CHARING CROSS BANK

(Established 1870.)

22, Bedford Street, Charing Cross, London, and 39, Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C.

Branches: Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Bristol, etc.

Assets, £1,627,949. Liabilities, £1,256,271. Surplus, £371,678.

LOANS of £50 to £2,000 granted at a few hours' notice in Town or Country, on personal security, jewellery, precious stones, stocks, shares and furniture, without removal.

Stocks and Shares bought and sold.

Two-and-a-half per cent. allowed on Current Account Balances

Deposits of £10 and upwards received as under:—

Subject to 3 months' notice of withdrawal 3 p.c. per ann.
" 6 " " 6 " "
" 12 " " 7 " "

Special terms for longer periods. Interest paid quarterly.

Owing to the nature of our Investments, we are able to pay rates of interest on deposits that will compare favourably with dividends paid on almost any class of stock or share-holding insuring the safety of capital. We have been established for 40 years, and our position in the banking world to-day testifies to the success of our business methods, and to the satisfaction of our customers. Write or call for prospectus.

A. WILLIAMS and H. J. TALL, Joint Managers.

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(37th Edition.)

Stock Exchange Operations thoroughly explained, also Call Options. How to open an account with limited risk. How to avoid Broker's Commissions. Contains Highest and Lowest Sales for last 15 years. Gratis from Publishers—

FARROW, GRAHAM & CO.,

(Successors to Freeborn, Franklin & Co. Established 1899)

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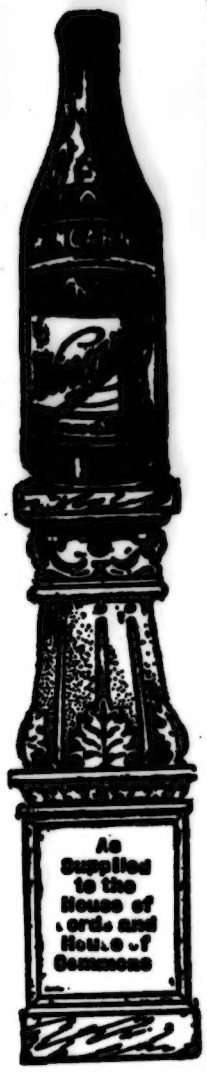

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14813	100996	172520	230037	349849
34273	107590	193042	233123	354577
51493	125251	193162	238838	359170
53266	142136	205365	241232	360574
56922	142792	205725	248893	364235
61656	151759	215480	256621	366668
70433	157968	216427	266360	368582
82460	160345	220869	305636	372533
92007	164061	222494	334459	374522
100102	172024	226874	341277	376389

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